
Douluo Dalu

V15 – Illusion Breaking Demon

Eye

Tang Jia San Shao

099 – Another Spirit Bone

Part 1

From the toxic liquid that used to be seventy second ranked Spirit Sage Shi Nian, Tang San saw a glittering with rainbow-colored light spirit bone.

At the appearance of this spirit bone, Tang San felt a burst of fear. How couldn't he be afraid?

If Shi Nian had used the might of this spirit bone before, even without using his spirit, Tang San would still have been unable to resist the enormous spirit power gap between them, as well as this spirit bone.

Tang San knew he was lucky. If not for the care of the goddess of luck, perhaps he would have become a corpse by now.

Shi Nian had truly underestimated Tang San, with his seventy second ranked strength, it was practically unthinkable to use his spirit bone on Tang San. That he directly used his seventh spirit ability was already quite cautious.

If Tang San hadn't possessed Purple Demon Eye's ability to break all illusions, if he hadn't had that tyrannically deadly Yama's Invitation, if not for Shi Nian not making an all out effort.....

If even one of these had been missing, then Tang San would be dead right now.

Tang San's clothes were already soaked through with cold sweat. He snapped off a twig from the side, cautiously pulling out that spirit bone. By the time he'd moved the spirit bone out, the branch in his hand was practically completely corroded.

He pulled out his always prepared reserve of fresh water from Twenty Four Moonlit Bridges and began to wash the spirit bone.

What Tang San didn't expect was that this seemingly extremely dazzling spirit bone hadn't been infected by any poison, even when it was instead touched by fresh water, it would instantly roll off, without leaving behind even a droplet.

Worthy of being a priceless treasure among spirit bones. After resting a short while, Tang San's Mysterious Heaven Skill had recovered somewhat. Moving his right hand, he used Mysterious Jade Hand to pick up the spirit bone.

As the spirit bone fell into his hand, he immediately had an extremely strange sensation, as if it was part of his body. Especially when Tang San used his left hand to touch the spirit bone, the energies contained within seemed even more like they wanted to enter his left arm.

Tang San believed that as long as he used the slightest bit of Mysterious Heaven Skill as guide, he would immediately fuse with this spirit bone.

To Spirit Masters, was there anything that held more attraction than spirit bones? Even as a person of two lives, right now Tang San couldn't keep his pulse from accelerating. His hand trembled slightly just from holding the spirit bone.

In his heart, a voice constantly urged him to quickly fuse with the spirit bone, before it was too late.

If he completed the fusion, Tang San would become a Spirit Master with two spirit bones. One more spirit bone would be like one more ability that might save his life or maybe annihilate the enemy. Even though Tang San couldn't see what kind of ability this spirit bone might give him, he could be certain that this spirit bone definitely wasn't common goods. One might say that it was impossible for any spirit bone to be common.

Spirit bones were special materials that might appear after the death of a spirit beast. After Tang San had once listened to Grandmaster's exhaustive account of their uses and difficulties in obtaining, he had related them to his knowledge from his previous world.

He vaguely felt that the existence of spirit bones was equivalent to the Buddhist relics of his old world. Just that spirit bones were the relics of spirit beasts.

The higher the cultivation of the spirit beasts, the greater the chance of spirit bones appearing. But only hundred thousand year spirit beasts could drop spirit bones with a hundred percent certainty. This was another important reason why hundred thousand year spirit rings had always been at the top of the Continent's list of rarest things.

When one could possess enough strength to kill a hundred thousand year spirit beast, not only could one obtain an incomparably powerful hundred thousand year spirit ring, at the same time one could also immediately obtain a spirit bone from a hundred thousand year spirit beast.

Unfortunately, hundred thousand year spirit beasts were truly far, far too rare. In the entire history of the Spirit Master world they had only appeared a handful of times.

Tang San drew two deep breaths one after another, and managed with difficulty to suppress the desire to fuse with this spirit bone. Clenching his teeth, he deposited it within his Wishful Hundred Treasure Purse.

He of course wasn't reluctant to fuse with the spirit bone. The reason he didn't rashly absorb it was because of Grandmaster's teaching.

Spirit bones were admittedly top quality goods, but just like spirit rings, different spirit bones would have different effects for different Spirit Masters. Even though spirit bones would drop after the death of a Spirit Master, as long as the Spirit Master still lived, it couldn't be replaced.

In other words, if a Spirit Master fused with a spirit bone, then, just like a spirit ring, it would follow him his entire life.

In this respect, spirit bones were even more potent than spirit rings. There was still a method to remove spirit rings, though at the price

of never being able to obtain a spirit ring again.

For instance, if a nine ring Title Douluo renounced one of his spirit rings, then he would never be able to again obtain a ninth spirit ring, and would only be an eight ring Spirit Douluo.

Therefore, the method for renouncing spirit rings was only theoretical. But spirit bones would only drop under one circumstance, the death of the Spirit Master. Otherwise, they couldn't be given up.

Originally when Grandmaster taught Tang San he said that even though spirit bones were good, he had to choose one that suited him. If he wasn't clear on the effect of the spirit bone, he mustn't assimilate it impatiently. Otherwise, it was possible he would waste one of his six spirit bone slots.

A theoretician like Grandmaster of naturally wouldn't be wrong, but to Spirit Masters the allure of spirit bones was far too great. If not because of Tang San's staunch willpower and unswerving determination, perhaps he would have fused with it as soon as he recognized it.

Even a lacking spirit bone would have a certain effect, and having one was always better than not having one.

Let alone ordinary Spirit Masters, even Title Douluo might not possess spirit bones, much less six.

Even though the poison in Yama's Invitation was potent, after being released into the blood, it would lose its effect once it left the blood. Therefore Tang San didn't need to worry about the black puddle that was once Shi Nian would have any major effect on the surroundings.

Resting a moment, Tang San didn't dare stay here long. Who could say whether any other Blue Sunshine Academy people apart from Shi Nian would be causing trouble from him? After his physical strength had recovered somewhat, Tang San immediately left the grove. Mindful of his own safety, he had no choice but to urge Purple Demon Eye to observe his surroundings as far as his eyesight permitted after leaving the grove, while he cautiously returned to

Heaven Dou City.

Fortunately, the grove wasn't far from Heaven Dou City. After entering, Tang San resisted the hollow feeling of his spirit power and swiftly returned to Shrek Academy.

Even before he had reached the Academy gate, Tang San could already see Xiao Wu standing there, anxiously waiting.

“Ge——”

Seeing Tang San, tears flowed from Xiao Wu's eyes, and she leapt at him as if flying.

After that ominous premonition, the Shrek Academy party had swiftly returned to the Academy. When they discovered that Tang San really wasn't there, Xiao Wu immediately sunk into panic. Everyone went out to search, only leaving Xiao Wu to wait here.

Finally having waited until Tang San's return, the extremely emotional Xiao Wu dashed at him. Normally Tang San could naturally have caught her, but as he was weakened right now, he was unable to withstand her charge. As she ran into Tang San's chest, both of them went to the ground.

Fortunately, Xiao Wu's flexibility and reaction was outstanding. When the two were about to hit the ground, she pushed up with one hand, and even though it didn't stop them from falling, it substantially reduced their momentum.

A fragrant tender body rushing into his embrace, Tang San only felt the sky spinning and ground revolving, but he also equally felt at ease. Subconsciously, he pulled Xiao Wu into a tight embrace as they fell. This moment, his heart was filled equally with fiery heat and dread.

Even though he successfully used Yama's Invitation to kill Shi Nian, in order to keep Shi Nian from discovering anything odd, he had still completely had to endure the Nightmare illusion of Shi Nian's seventh spirit ability. Even though Purple Demon Eye had been able to see the truth, the terror from that illusion still hadn't completely left him. Holding Xiao Wu, Tang San couldn't keep the scene of Xiao Wu

being molested by that vulgar uncle from his mind. To him, there was practically nothing that could be more terrifying.

Pulling in Xiao Wu tight, he even wanted to blend her into himself, carefully protecting her.

Xiao Wu also clearly sensed the change in Tang San's mood, and that burning aura of his alone already made her pulse accelerate. But the fear in her heart was even more intense than Tang San's. She hadn't waited for long, but each second had been a kind of torment. She didn't know what she would have done if something truly had happened to Tang San.

This brief separation made both of them profoundly feel each others' importance in their hearts.

Tang San's consciousness gradually grew faint, but his arms were still tight around Xiao Wu, not changing until the moment he completely lost consciousness.

Yama's Invitation had required more internal strength than he had imagined. Whether it was his mind or internal strength, the drain on Tang San had already reached the edge of danger.

Now seeing Xiao Wu again, returning to the Academy gate, the tight strings of his heart finally relaxed. His body could no longer endure the strain of exhaustion, and shut down out of self preservation.

Not knowing how much later, when Tang San slowly woke from unconsciousness, he was already back on his bed in the dorms.

Consciousness gradually returning, the weak feeling had already improved a lot, his inner strength already somewhat recovered under his body's autonomous adjustment. Slowly breathing in through his nose, urging his internal strength to circulate through his energy channels once, Tang San then opened his eyes.

Part 2

He wasn't injured, he had simply exhausted too much of his mental and internal strength, leading to unconsciousness. Now, after a

moment of rest, he had already recovered to some extent.

Only now did Tang San discover a small hand in his, naturally it was Xiao Wu's. At the moment she was sitting by the side of the bed, leaning over next to him, deep asleep. He could vaguely see that her eyes were still red, and her tender little face somewhat red. Her slender scorpion braid hung over the bedside, and her long eyelashes trembled slightly from time to time. Clearly, her sleep was uneasy.

Seeing that gentle and beautiful face, that black long hair, as well as the pursed brows still not recovered from dread, Tang San found it difficult to control the overwhelming tenderness in his heart.

Softly getting off the bed and gently picking her up, carrying her like a piece of muslin, he placed her on his bed to let her rest a bit more comfortably.

Whether it was because Tang San moved too softly or Xiao Wu was too tired, but she didn't wake up, only unconsciously winding her arms around his neck in her sleep, refusing to let go no matter what.

Everything happened very naturally, and he pulled her soft body into his embrace, covering them with the quilt. Without using cultivation to recover his internal strength, but with a warmth in his heart, he once again slept together with her. Without a trace of worry, only endless tenderness.

Her brows unconsciously smoothed, and his heart comforted by the warmth at his chest, an unprecedentedly peaceful warmth blossomed on the simple bed.

In early morning, as the first rays of sunshine filtered through the windows, Xiao Wu wiggled a bit in Tang San's embrace. Perhaps it because of a mutual tacit understanding, both opened their eyes practically at the same time, then quickly closed them again at the same time.

A rich red color spread across her face, and he awkwardly wanted to let go, but was again held onto by her.

Neither of them spoke up, and neither of them had anything to say.

Only their heartbeats peculiarly sped up.

At the sound of footsteps approaching the room, both of them quickly separated like startled birds. Unable to manage the embarrassment, Tang San swiftly leapt off the bed and pulled on his outer clothes.

“Xiao Wu, is little San a bit better?”

A knock resounded, followed by Oscar’s voice.

Tang San looked at Xiao Wu. By now Xiao Wu had already gotten off the bed, but was unable to conceal that blush on her face in any way. The two looked face to face, Xiao Wu pointed first to herself, then to the door, again at Tang San, and finally to the bed.

Wordless understanding let Tang San lay back down on the bed, while Xiao Wu drew a deep breath. Calming her heartbeat, she then opened the door.

Seeing the blushing Xiao Wu, Oscar was somewhat puzzled:

“Xiao Wu, how is it?”

Xiao Wu said:

“He still hasn’t woken up, but his breath has already evened out. There shouldn’t be any problem.”

Oscar gave her a deeply meaningful glance, and grinned:

“That’s fine, that’s fine. Let him sleep a bit longer. I’ll go eat breakfast first. No need to go together. Oh, that’s right, Grandmaster said to have Tang San go find him as soon as he wakes up.”

Xiao Wu nodded hastily. At this moment she was eager for Oscar to leave quickly, so she could steady her mood a bit.

Once Xiao Wu had closed the door, Tang San sat back up from the bed. The two looked face to face, and Xiao Wu somewhat panicked lowered her head. Tang San walked over to her side, rubbing her head,

“I’m already alright. I’ll go find Grandmaster.”

Only once Tang San had left the room did Xiao Wu’s mood gradually calm. Both hands cupping her face, she discovered that things she hadn’t been able to see clearly before were becoming clearer and clearer in her mind. Her beautiful eyes displayed a somewhat extraordinary radiance and resolution, and she had a trace of a smile.

She gave the bed a final look, then quickly stepped out.

“Grandmaster, it’s me.”

When Tang San reached Grandmaster’s room, the door was open.

There was a sumptuous breakfast arranged on Grandmaster’s table.

Grandmaster smiled slightly, saying:

“Eat something first. We’ll talk after eating.”

Tang San didn’t refuse. He hadn’t eaten anything last night, and having never lacked appetite, he immediately sat down and began to eat heartily. Grandmaster didn’t ask any questions in the meantime, only quietly pondered something.

Once Tang San had swept the table clean of breakfast, Grandmaster looked at him with a meaningful gaze, saying:

“Did someone ambush you yesterday? Tell me about it in detail.”

Tang San wouldn’t hide anything from Grandmaster, and he nodded immediately, saying:

“It was Blue Sunshine Academy’s Shi Nian.”

Grandmaster’s complexion suddenly changed, the pupils of his eyes contracting,

“You’re talking about Brutal Dream Shi Nian?”

Tang San nodded,

“Yes.”

While speaking, he walked over and carefully closed the door; some things shouldn't be seen by others.

Grandmaster's expression was very unsightly, his brows tightening,

“Does he have such good intentions that he would actually let you go? Shi Nian was always widely known as a cruel person, and further adding that special spirit of his, whether attacking or escaping, both are fairly troublesome. Considered an atypical control system Spirit Master, he's very difficult to deal with.”

“He's dead. I killed him.”

Tang San directly delivered the result.

Grandmaster was stunned, raising his head to look at Tang San,

“You killed him?”

Tang San nodded,

“It went like this.....”

Immediately, he gave a detailed narration of what happened to him after he left Heaven Dou Great Spirit Arena yesterday.

He didn't even conceal the secret of Yama's Invitation. If he had to say who he trusted the most in this world, it might not be his father Tang Hao, but rather Grandmaster.

From Tang San's point of view, Grandmaster had given him far more than Tang Hao. He felt affection for his father, but affection and respect for Grandmaster.

Listening to Tang San's account, Grandmaster couldn't keep his expression from becoming bizarre. As he heard Tang San say he had taken that rainbow-colored spirit bone from Shi Nian, he almost cried out in surprise, shooting up from his chair.

Looking at Tang San with extreme agitation, he even trembled somewhat.

“Take it out so I can see it. Quickly.”

Grandmaster said somewhat impatiently.

Tang San took out the rainbow-colored spirit bone from Wishful Hundred Treasure Purse, leaving it in Grandmaster’s hands.

As Grandmaster held the spirit bone, his heartbeat accelerate constantly. Even though he had researched spirits all his life, this was still his first time seeing a spirit bone so clearly.

He had never been in such close contact with a spirit bone even when he was at the Blue Lightning Tyrant Dragon clan.

To Grandmaster, spirit bones were like a second life. Nobody would easily reveal their spirit bones, and kept the fact they had one under even more extreme secrecy. Even Title Douluo were the same.

Even fewer people would carry a spirit bone on them. As long as they obtained such a priceless treasure, anyone would instantly absorb it, increasing their strength.

Grandmaster focused his attention on that spirit bone, beside himself for a long time.

“Little San, you truly have grown.”

Sighing softly, Grandmaster cautiously and solemnly returned the spirit bone to Tang San’s hands, indicating he should immediately put it back in the Wishful Hundred Treasure Purse.

Putting away the spirit bone, Tang San somewhat puzzled looked at Grandmaster. He didn’t understand why Grandmaster would say something like that.

Grandmaster sighed,

“On encountering a spirit bone, you still didn’t forget my warnings, and didn’t absorb it directly. This already proved that your temperament is already far beyond ordinary people. Now I can also finally at ease let you graduate after this tournament.”

There was some yearning in Tang San’s eyes,

“No, Teacher, I still want to continue learning from you.”

A laugh escaped from Grandmaster:

“You’ve long ago practically already learned what I can teach you. What you must do now is constantly take my theory and turn it into reality. This is also what I hope for the most. Little San, you must remember, no matter when, real combat is most important. If not for plentiful combat experience, right now you might already be a corpse. I didn’t expect that mysterious eye skill of yours could actually break Shi Nian’s Brutal Dream Spirit, and then that toxic hidden weapon as well. I think you should also be aware just how lucky you were in that fight yesterday. Only the slightest difference would have turned you into a corpse.”

Of course Tang San knew. Let alone the spirit bone, if Shi Nian hadn’t been so cruel and insisted on using his abnormal spirit ability, if he had only relied on strength, perhaps Tang San would already be dead. And then Shi Nian even had a spirit bone on top of that.

Grandmaster’s expression suddenly became serious,

“Don’t speak of this matter to anyone again. Not even the Shrek Seven Devils, Flender and the others. Brutal Dream Shi Nian has gone missing, but that’s entirely unrelated to you. That goes double for this spirit bone, don’t let anyone know about it. What is called ‘treasuring a jade ring becomes a crime’^[1], I don’t want you to provoke some deadly calamity because of it. Understand?”

Tang San nodded, but he still couldn’t help asking:

“Grandmaster, just what is the effect of this spirit bone?”

Grandmaster muttered to himself:

“From observing its appearance and aura, it seems it was extremely wise of you not to absorb this spirit bone. Because it doesn’t suit you. This spirit bone should be a gem type, most applicable for auxiliary system Spirit Masters and illusionist type Spirit Masters, a very good match for Shi Nian. But you’re different, you’re not that category of Spirit Master. Even if you used it, the ability you would gain would be of little value. The added properties also wouldn’t be

too good. Of course, it's still a lot better than not having one."

Part 3

"Originally, the reason I repeatedly warned you not to anxiously absorb spirit bones after getting one, was because of this. Even if this spirit bone doesn't suit you, it will suit others. Ideally, you can use it to trade for a spirit bone that fits you. Therefore, even though this spirit bone doesn't suit your direct use, to you it's still the necessary capital to trade for something more suitable. As long as you can grasp the opportunity, there will be no doubts as to the benefits."

Tang San couldn't help asking:

"Then what kind of spirit bone does suit me?"

Grandmaster said without the slightest hesitation:

"Strength type spirit bones and plant system spirit bones."

Tang San stared blankly. Plant system spirit bones he could understand, but why strength type spirit bones?

Tang San had been Grandmaster's disciple for many years, and naturally he saw the doubt in his mind,

"The benefit of plant system spirit bones goes without saying. As for strength type spirit bones, the greatest benefit is to strengthen you. At the same time, it's also in order to prepare for your second spirit. Your Clear Sky School's Clear Sky Hammer walks the strength route, and it's even the most tyrannical strength route. Remember what I told you, what is the greatest difficulty for twin spirits? It's that the body is unable to endure the added attributes from so many spirit rings. And strength type spirit bones will remould you one step further, making you able to endure even greater pressure."

"So it's like that."

Tang San now understood Grandmaster's painstaking effort,

“Then at what time should I go replace this spirit bone?”

Grandmaster pondered, saying:

“Don’t be hasty, this isn’t something you can accomplish on your own. Spirit bones are really too sensitive a topic in the Spirit Master world, if you don’t have sufficient threat of strength behind you, not only won’t you be able to trade for a suitable spirit bone, you will even attract deadly misfortune. Wait a few years. If you can meet your father, then you can shift it to an earlier date. With him there, nobody could touch you. Or if you could return to Clear Sky School, and obtain their backing.”

“Don’t participate in the match later. It’s not suitable to participate after such a massive exhaustion. Your opponents today aren’t powerful, the others are enough to deal with them. As for the others, just tell them that you had a flash of insight yesterday and went to cultivate outside the city for a while, and almost overdid it, that’s why you exhausted your spirit power. I’ll help you cover it up.”

Even though Tang San somewhat disapproved of Grandmaster’s caution, he still wouldn’t go against Grandmaster. His Teacher was doing it for his sake, and there was no harm in being a bit careful.

The qualifiers continued, and after the tenth round had finished, the teams participating in the Heaven Dou City qualifiers had already pulled open a lead.

Shrek Academy’s record of ten fights and ten wins, left them clearly competing for the first position.

There were still a few teams that had amassed identical records. That was also the four elemental academies other than Elephant Armored School.

Strangely, apart from facing the Elephant Armored Academy at the start, Shrek Academy didn’t encounter any of the other five elemental academy teams.

But the Elephant Armored Academy successively encountered the other four academies, and without exception, lost each time. It seemed as if their defense didn’t have any effect.

So far, Shrek Academy had been competing with the other four elemental academies for the top five positions, and they all still had complete win records.

But Elephant Armored Academy was extremely miserable. After ten fights with five wins and five losses, their position was only in the middle of the rankings. Let alone the Elephant Armored Academy themselves, even the organizers hadn't expected such an outcome.

This made each team in the qualifiers pull open the distance, and the first group of five teams led by a wide margin.

However, the next match wouldn't be so easy. Shrek Academy's eleventh opponent was from the five elemental academies, the Blazing Academy. A formidable team composed entirely of fire type Spirit Masters.

This match, due to Shrek Academy and Blazing Academy's previous matches, undoubtedly became the greatest focal point. It came as a shock to nobody that they were arranged for the central stage.

The match still hadn't started, but the stands were already bustling. At least a third of the audience was dressed in the emblematic green of Shrek Academy's uniforms.

Even though the five elemental academies were equally strong, a grassroots background like the Shrek Academy resonated even easier with the audience. Especially their out of the ordinary poise had already swept Heaven Dou City with a green wave.

This moment wasn't far from when they signed up, but Shrek Academy was already receiving applications like snow flakes. This showed how much reputation the Shrek team had brought their Academy.

Flender was even more pleased as the profit filled both basins and pots.

As Grandmaster made a detailed introduction of the Blazing Academy, his expression was clearly somewhat serious. These days he had constantly been researching the strength of the five element academies, and now he had finally grasped a general outline.

“Teacher, we’ll go out as usual for this match.”

Tang San said to Grandmaster. What he called ‘as usual’, was him, Dai Mubai, and Xiao Wu, bringing along the four reserve members.

Grandmaster shook his head, saying:

“No. This time your opponent is fairly powerful. Little San, you’ve always been competing these last days, do you know why the Elephant Armored Academy successively lost against the other four elemental academies?”

Tang San shook his head. He had led the team to participate in matches every day. Having to analyze the circumstances of the match, as well as being the mainstay, he basically didn’t have the time to pay attention to such things.

Grandmaster said:

“Originally I couldn’t be sure, but in these few days I’ve been observing the battles between the other four great elemental academies and the Elephant Armored Academy, and I already have a vague grasp on the details. They’re also hiding their strength. It seems the extreme limit flow has already begun to use strength to make up for weakness.”

Seeing Tang San’s somewhat astonished gaze, Grandmaster quickly said:

“There’s not much time, I’ll make it brief. You’ve already faced the Elephant Armored School’s disciples, they were a typical extreme limit flow team. In the past there wasn’t much difference between them and the other four elemental academies in strength. The reason they’ve kept losing this time is because the other four elemental academies have changed their fighting style. Even though they’re all Spirit Masters of the same attribute, they’ve already started splitting the work. In other words, these four great elemental academies are fully using extreme limit flow according to the balanced method. Do you understand?”

Tang San had studied under Grandmaster for so many years, and he naturally found it easiest to understand what he said. Complexion

changing, he said with astonishment:

“Teacher, you mean, the other four great elemental academies have also begun using separate classes?”

“That’s right. The Blazing Academy you’re about to face possesses fire element power attack, fire element battle control, fire element agility attack, fire element support. They just didn’t reveal this when they were facing weaker opponents. Only when they fought the Elephant Armored Academy did some of their strength appear. That’s why, even if the Elephant Armored Academy’s chief disciple has a spirit bone, they still couldn’t endure their bombardment. Blazing Academy and Thunderclap Academy are both known for their attack. Their strike is bound to be like the five thousand ton weight of thunder. That’s why you have to be even more careful. If it seems impossible, I would rather you concede without being stubborn. After all, these are just the qualifiers, it’s fine as long as you pass the goal line. No need to worry about Flender.”

Hearing what Grandmaster had to say, Tang San couldn’t help sinking into a brief moment of consideration.

Fire element power attack, fire element battle control, fire element agility attack, fire element support, he had never come across a team like that.

Same attribute amplification and support, even if it was just more of the same, the burst intensity when attacking would absolutely be frightening. This Blazing Academy really didn’t seem easy to deal with.

“Teacher, I’ve decided. We’ll still go out as usual.”

Tang San’s words were resolute, without a trace of hesitation.

Grandmaster stared blankly a moment, then nodded and smiled:

“Fine, do as you wish. I believe you will do very well. Sometimes, giving up when necessary is also a very good kind of tactic.”

Tang San knew Grandmaster had misunderstood his intent, but he still didn’t try to explain. He only smiled calmly and nodded to his

Teacher.

“First round, central stage, Shrek Academy facing Blazing Academy.”

The announcer declared the names of the entering teams in a loud voice. The teams on either side stepped into the ring with their heads held high.

In a split second, the entire audience surged like a raging sea, cheers rising and falling, some supporting Blazing Academy, but even more supporting Shrek.

Shrek Academy had already defeated one of the five elemental academies, if they could also take down Blazing Academy, then their status would inevitably rise another step. All the spectators were looking forward to this moment.

Dai Mubai still walked furthest ahead, Tai Long and Huang Yuan at his side, behind them were Tang San, and standing next to him were Xiao Wu and Jing Ling.

Jiang Zhu still stood furthest in the back as customary. Their uniforms no longer had just that ‘wash even healthier’ advertisement, but still had even more logos.

Perhaps it was because the effect of the advertisement was out of the ordinary, but Flender had already found more than ten sponsors for the team uniforms. The uniforms appeared even more hilariously gaudy, but Shrek Academy’s profit had also become even greater.

Faintly flickering light, Tang San’s eyes displayed a trace of ice cold light, both hands folded across his chest, quietly observing their opponents, equally unhurriedly strolling onto the stage.

The Blazing Academy’s seven students all seemed to be about the same age, a bit over twenty.

Seven people, in a triangular formation.

Notes

1. Idiom: Just possessing a treasure is enough to invite disaster.

100 – Shrek Academy VS Blazing Academy

Part 1

The person walking furthest ahead was medium sized, with an extremely ordinary appearance, a pair of eyes flickering with red-hot radiance, broad shoulders, the contrast between a gold and red uniform and that not particularly handsome face still made him imposing and threatening.

This person was Blazing Academy's team captain, Huo Wushuang^[1]. A forty second ranked power attack system Battle Spirit Master. His spirit was somewhat similar to Liu Erlong's, a Fire Dragon. Only Liu Erlong's Fire Dragon was more partial to Yin flame, while his Fire Dragon was a One-Horned Tyrant Dragon, completely walking the explosive route. In these qualifiers he was already known among Spirit Masters as most powerful head-on. He was also Blazing Academy's unyielding mainstay attacker.

All the seven Blazing Academy students stood very close, and directly behind Huo Wushuang was another power attack system Spirit Master, thirty eighth ranked, without any outstanding features. Data showed that this person's spirit was a Fire Leopard. Further behind were two people, two youths with gloomy expressions. Their appearances were exactly identical, unexpectedly a pair of twins. One was called Huo Yun^[2] and the other Huo Yu^[3], their spirits were Fire Crane^[4]. They were also the agility attack system fire element Battle Spirit Masters Grandmaster spoke about. Their spirit power had both reached the thirty ninth rank, only a fine line away from the fortieth rank.

Furthest behind were two men and one woman, the two male Spirit Masters were extremely tall and wide, their faces valiant, and if going by appearance, they would absolutely be taken for power attack system Spirit Masters. But Grandmaster had told the Shrek

Academy team that the two weren't power attack system, but rather auxiliary system. Only their support contained a certain attack capability. If the opponents weren't especially powerful, their support characteristics wouldn't even be seen. Their spirits were also strangely identical, both had Sparks^[6]. That's right, Sparks, a kind of unusual spirit.

And between the two was the whole Blazing Academy team's only woman, an extremely beautiful girl, the golden uniform she wore complementing her, matched with deep red long hair, able to stir any man's fire, she was extremely attention grabbing.

Even though she was the only woman among the Blazing Academy, she was the tallest among the seven members, and her body was extremely well shaped. Standing in the middle with a constant faint smile, there was a faint red light around her.

If someone thought she was the Blazing Academy's weakest member in a fight, then that would be a fatal mistake. Because apart from the captain, this girl was Blazing Academy's other fortieth ranked Spirit Master, and even the highest ranked in the whole team. Forty third ranked control system Battle Spirit Master, Huo Wu^[6]. She was the soul of the team, as well as their vice captain. Her spirit was she herself, using her own shadow, Fire Shadow^[7].

Before the start of the match, Tang San only had time to look over the Spirit Master formation on the other side. It wasn't that Shrek Academy had received the information late, but rather that Grandmaster deliberately gave them a rough run down of the opponents before the match. Winning was admittedly important, but to Grandmaster, it was even more important for the children to mature. In battles between Spirit Masters, you would frequently have to adapt to the enemy. When confronting the enemy, they would never tell you about their circumstances. What Grandmaster wanted to cultivate was Tang San's ability to judge the enemy. As the soul of the team, his adaptability was clearly the most important.

Of the seven opponents, the one that drew Tang San's attention the most wasn't the one reputed as the most powerful frontal attacker, Huo Wushuang, but rather the control system Spirit Master Huo Wu

between the two auxiliary system Spirit Masters in the rear.

Even though the opponents this time were still inferior to Elephant Armored Academy in terms of spirit power, what with having only two fortieth ranked Spirit Ancestors, since they could defeat the Elephant Armored Academy, there was no need to doubt their strength.

The referee walked into the middle,

“Both sides, salute.”

The altogether fourteen members of both teams lined up, saluting their counterparts. Dai Mubai’s gaze met Huo Wushuang’s, and Tang San couldn’t keep his gaze from meeting Huo Wu. The competition still hadn’t started, but the smell of gunpowder filled the space between them.

Huo Wushuang glared at Dai Mubai, their gazes colliding. In a low voice he said:

“Today is the moment your winning streak ends.”

Dai Mubai faintly said:

“That’s what I wanted to say. Today, one of our two teams will be unable to keep winning.”

Huo Wushuang’s gaze shifted to Tang San at Dai Mubai’s side,

“It’s a pity. If your control system Spirit Master wasn’t a plant type, then perhaps you still might have had some chance. But, now..... I advise you to forfeit, that way you can at least conserve your strength for the next match.”

Dai Mubai sneered in reply. In fact, inwardly he was also uncertain.

How couldn’t he know that plant type Spirit Masters were naturally suppressed by fire type Spirit Masters?

And the seven opponents were all fire type.

Tang San was undoubtedly the most important part of the Shrek Academy team. If he was suppressed by the opponents, then

beating Blazing Academy with their current formation was undoubtedly lunatic ravings. Even if he and Zhu Zhuqing had the Hell White Tiger, they still might not be able to beat all the opponents.

To say nothing of the fact that Zhu Zhuqing wasn't in this fight. To whom the deer would fall, was still a riddle.

"You can release your spirits."

The referee's voice rose once again. In an instant, the central stage was covered by light.

Intense spirit ring light flooded the whole stage, without doubt, both sides had optimal spirit ring configurations. Comparing spirit rings, they were completely balanced. Both sides had two fortieth ranked Spirit Ancestors along with five thirtieth ranked Spirit Elders.

Both sides were completely balanced in level. Of course, there was still a gap in Tang San's terror-inducing ten thousand year spirit ring.

But how did a team fight? As a whole. A small gap absolutely couldn't become a key to change the entire battle.

Tang San's gaze swept across the formation, but always landed on the tall young woman called Huo Wu.

Her name was the same as Xiao Wu, both having the word 'wu'. But this girl gave Tang San a very unusual feeling.

Even if she was always smiling, her aura was extremely reserved. Even with Tang San's strength and Purple Demon Eye, he was still unable to clearly see what strength this girl hid.

Spirits leapt up, and intangible pressure squeezed both sides like two immense walls.

After the referee retreated, both sides simultaneously returned to their familiar formations. Blazing Academy still had a triangular formation, while the Shrek Academy side still had Dai Mubai, Tai Long, and Huang Yuan in front, Jiang Zhu in the back, and Tang San, Xiao Wu, and Jing Ling in the middle.

Going by formations, no doubt the Blazing Academy arrangement

seemed even more offensive, while the Shrek Academy's side seemed relatively conservative.

“Match begin!”

Along with the referee's command, both sides moved in the first instant.

Dai Mubai abruptly took a step forward, making the whole stage shake. Huang Yuan and Tai Long followed at his side, the three simultaneously pressuring their counterparts with the weight of five thousand tons of thunder. At their waists appeared a slender and extremely durable strand of Blue Silver Grass.

Hong—— At this moment, raging flames leapt up in a flash in the middle of the enemy ranks. Fiery red light filled half the stage with scorching hot air.

Raging flames rose practically simultaneously from all the seven Blazing Academy team members, each person's first spirit ring releasing dazzling light.

Sparks radiated all around the two auxiliary system Spirit Masters, countless little flecks of light in the air swiftly condensed towards those sparks. Along with the red flecks of light gathering, the sparks swiftly grew larger, spiraling over the heads of all the seven.

Huo Wushuang brazenly stepped forward with the other power attack system Spirit Master. A resonant dragon's roar rose from his throat, and the raging flames all over his body vaguely took the shape of a dragon behind him. Spirit Body Enhancement made his body swell a size, covering his skin with a layer of blazing hot deep red scales.

The two agility attack system Spirit Masters Huo Yun and Huo Yu detoured around them, a pair of dazzlingly beautiful wings extending behind their backs. Even though they couldn't fly, they still advanced in a bizarre curving way, gliding around, their target at the center of the Shrek Academy team, Tang San.

After the dazzling sparks condensed in the air one after another, they swiftly poured into the others. As each spark entered, it made

the Blazing Academy students' flames even fiercer.

Without a doubt, this was a team with extremely tacit cooperation; the match had only just started, but they had already established a total advantage.

On the battlefield, there were only three people that didn't move. On Shrek Academy's side was Tang San and Jiang Zhu, and on the opposing side, control system Spirit Master Huo Wu.

Jiang Zhu being motionless was because of her healing capability, and now still wasn't the time to heal. But Tang San and Huo Wu were still looking at each other, neither acting.

Xiao Wu and Jing Ling simultaneously flashed out to the side, meeting the opponents' two agility attack system Spirit Masters, loudly colliding together head-on on the battlefield.

Dai Mubai and Huo Wushuang loudly erupted with their second spirit abilities, both jolted simultaneously. Huo Wushuang retreated a step, but Dai Mubai didn't move a hair's breadth.

The two both had extremely powerful spirits, but Dai Mubai still had an edge in spirit power.

However, Dai Mubai also wasn't unscathed. His tiger palms were already somewhat licked by flames, emitting a scorched smell.

Part 2

Wu Shuang was clearly enormously unreconciled to being pushed back. With an explosive roar, he once again stiffly charged forward without using any spirit abilities, striking at Dai Mubai without any garishness. His defense was his own unparalleled 'head-on' reputation.

The other Blazing Academy power attack system Spirit Master was somewhat out of luck, facing the attacks of both Tai Long and Huang Yuan.

Tai Long's spirit was Vajra Orangutan, and now under Spirit Body

Enhancement, his body's sturdiness was already extremely frightening. Even if he still couldn't compare to those abnormal Elephant Armored Academy fellows, his muscles like coiling serpents gave a feeling of even more power. His attack was also the simplest, pure force. Basically no matter who the opponent was, he would let the opponent bombard him, and he would equally throw out his fists. And Huang Yuan swiftly leapt up, yellow light releasing from his sharp claws, going straight for the opponent's chest.

When there was little difference in level, a two against one battle should be without any suspense. But at this moment, Blazing Academy's strength immediately emerged.

Those constantly condensing sparks in the air were originally evenly distributed across the all the other five team members, but when the combined attacks of Huang Yuan and Tai Long struck that Fire Leopard Spirit Master, the sparks in the air suddenly accelerated, their collected power shooting into the body of the Fire Leopard Spirit Master in a flash.

Immediately, a circle of golden red light released from within the Fire Leopard Spirit Master, a tremendous energy suddenly expanding, unexpectedly repelling both Tai Long and Huang Yuan's attacks.

Even if it didn't injure the two, the Fire Leopard Spirit Master's crisis was already easily resolved. He immediately went straight for the seemingly weaker of the two, Huang Yuan. Whether attack power or speed, both had abruptly increased when that big cloud of sparks had poured in.

'Good auxiliary control.' Tang San's eyes brightened, he had already clearly judged the opponents' condition.

That trio of two support and one control should actually be considered a trio of control system Spirit Masters. The two big fellows weren't just common auxiliary system Spirit Masters, but of an exceptionally uncommon auxiliary control system.

In a battle, relying on their support capabilities to conduct control, selectively helping their team members. In some sense, this method was somewhat similar to the Shrek Seven Devils' Ning Rongrong.

Even though their spirits weren't as out of the ordinary as the Seven Treasure Glazed Tile Pagoda, when the two simultaneously supported one person, it could undoubtedly substantially boost his strength for a short time. This was also an important reason why they only had two power attack system Spirit Masters.

Having seen this clearly, Tang San finally moved. With the speed of thought, Blue Silver Grass abruptly withdrew, pulling back Huang Yuan and Tai Long, simultaneously having them retreat in one direction under Tang San's precise control. And withdrawing at the same time was Dai Mubai who was fighting Huo Wushuang.

Dai Mubai and Huo Wushuang could be said to be evenly matched. Both were power attack system Spirit Masters, both had overbearing spirits, there was very little difference in spirit power, making the fight between them inspire a kind of unrestrained feeling.

But just as they were happily trading blows, Dai Mubai's sudden retreat was undoubtedly beyond Huo Wushuang's comprehension, but his feet unconsciously followed, automatically pulled along, both fists simultaneously bursting out, straight at Dai Mubai's chest.

However, the moment Huo Wushuang's dashed forward, he already felt something amiss.

Dai Mubai's retreat was too fast, and at the same time as he advanced, Huang Yuan and Tai Long also simultaneously retreated to either side, the three forming a perfect triangular formation, with him in the center.

Even though this wasn't the first time Tang San used these tactics in a fight, with Blue Silver Grass's increasingly accurate control, it could often acquire enormous effect. In the ten previous fights, at least six team captains had been ensnared in Tang San's control like this.

Even though Huo Wushuang wasn't weak, in a moment, he would become the seventh.

Dai Mubai and Tang San had been cooperating for a very long time, and as he retreated, he had already understood Tang San's intentions. Without the slightest hesitation, he directly unleashed his

potent third spirit ability, White Tiger Vajra Transformation.

Instantly, white fur burst with golden splendor, and even though he was retreating, his imposing manner instantly increased. Seeing the encirclement almost complete, Dai Mubai stepped down, halting his backwards momentum. He crouched like a tiger about to pounce, and immediately afterward, struck like lightning.

Everything happened extremely fast, this encircling and annihilating joint attack was fast, precise, fierce, exploiting numerical advantage and instantaneous burst power to first destroy the strongest of the opponents. As long as they could smash Huo Wushuang, the rest of the battle would no doubt become a lot easier for the Shrek team.

However, was it really that easy?

Grandmaster had always observed the other team's matches, so how couldn't the other teams also have paid attention to Shrek Academy's ten successive victories?

The moment both sides were about to complete their encirclement, suddenly, a red whirlwind erupted from the floor.

Even though Tang San manipulated his Blue Silver Grass, his gaze had never left the opposing side's control system Spirit Master, Huo Wu. Sure enough, at this moment, Huo Wu moved.

Huo Wu acted without any warning, her movements also extremely simple, but what shone was her third spirit ring. The dazzling purple light mixed with the golden red around her, and a dazzling ring-shaped flame instantly erupted where it was needed the most.

Her control was extremely precise, and when that great ring of flame arrived, was precisely when Dai Mubai's trio completed their encirclement and attacked.

Bizarrely, even though that instantly erupting ring of flame appeared extremely grand, the moment it touched, it still didn't make any sound.

Whether it was Dai Mubai, Huang Yuan or Tai Long, none of them felt any threat of harm to them, the trio was only sent flying in a split

second by a scorching hot powerful elasticity.

It wasn't just them being ejected, even Xiao Wu and Jing Ling who were fighting to two opposing agility attack system Spirit Masters.

These five were struck practically simultaneously by that bizarre ring of fire, flying out in five different directions, perfectly destroying the Shrek team's formation all at once.

Tang San, originally protected in the middle of everyone, was immediately exposed. That flame ring disappeared just in front of him, without flinging him away with the others.

This was Huo Wu's third spirit ability, Defying Flame Ring^[8]. This ability didn't have any attack power, but its greatest characteristic was the ability to eject all enemies within the range of the Defying Flame Ring a certain distance.

As for how far they were rejected, and differentiation between friend and foe, that was up to the Spirit Master's own control. It the ability of a kind of peculiar spirit beast.

This spirit ability would appear to be used to save one's life, when it appeared in the hands of an outstanding control system Spirit Master, it wasn't that simple. Even though Dai Mubai, Huang Yuan and Tai Long were all bound by Tang San's Blue Silver Grass, the instant they were shot out by the Defying Flame Ring, Tang San was still left by himself.

And without opponents to block them the two agility attack system Spirit Masters, along with Huo Wushuang, and the other power attack system Spirit Master, practically simultaneously pounced at Tang San, and moreover from four different directions. Right now, even Tang San didn't have enough time to use Blue Silver Grass to pull back his team members to help him.

From the start of the battle, this situation was what the Blazing Academy had arranged for Tang San, using Shrek Academy's best team tactic against them to deal with Tang San.

Four against one, they had even taken Tang San's Spider Web Restraint into account.

Attacking from different directions, Tang San's Spider Web could at most only restrain one person. There absolutely wasn't enough time for him to launch a second.

And that moment, he would already be besieged by three people, not even luck could save him then.

Anyone who looked could see that Tang San was the core of the Shrek team, as long as he was routed, the Shrek Team would be like a toothless tiger, and dealing with them would be a lot simpler without the threat of Tang San's ten thousand year spirit ring, and even more without his powerful control capability.

For insurance, the Blazing Academy's two auxiliary system Spirit Masters' third spirit rings flared simultaneously, and the previously constantly condensing sparks in the air unexpectedly split from one into two, from two into four, instantly increasing fourfold, and rushed at the four responsible for the attack.

Dazzlingly beautiful balls of flame fell from the air like a meteor shower, blazing flames already impassably surrounding Tang San.

The four people attacking Tang San simultaneously launched their third spirit abilities. Regarding this one attack, they were determined to win.

Sharp claws appeared on Huo Wushuang's hands, his body swelling once again, golden red light erupting from the scales. His third spirit ability and Dai Mubai's White Tiger Vajra Transformation were different approaches leading to the same outcome. His whole body erupted with raging flames.

With two crane calls, two enormous flame crane shadows flew out, Flame Shadow Doppelgängers.

The Fire Leopard Spirit Master erupted with seven deep blue flame bullets.

The quadruple attack sealed all Tang San's routes of escape.

Confronted by four people attacking him, Tang San seemed very serene, very calm.

However, within his body burned a raging inferno. He longed to fight, longed to use his own true strength to smash these four people before him.

Part 3

Perhaps he would be injured, but he believed he had that kind of strength. But, could he really do that? No, he couldn't. It still wasn't time to expose his true strength.

In such a moment of crisis, Tang San still had time to glance at that Huo Wu, her charming face already showing a trace of pride after releasing that Defying Flame Ring.

Huo Wu was very beautiful, her build somewhat like Xiao Wu, only somewhat more well rounded than Xiao Wu. Deep red waves of long hair hanging to her waist, a fair face with exquisite facial features, a pair of big eyes faintly flickering with silvery light. If the most beautiful women in the tournament were lined up, she would definitely be in the top five.

If others looked at her, Huo Wu would definitely think it was out of admiration. However, as her gaze met Tang San's, she saw his gaze was still brimming with confidence and stubbornness. Tang San's lips moved, and even though he didn't make a sound, Huo Wu could still vaguely make out what he was saying.

"You're too naive."

Indeed, this was what Tang San wanted to say. The next moment, he shot out like an arrow from a bow. Moreover, what he chose was the most difficult route out, attacking the densest seven star balls of the Fire Leopard Spirit Master.

Huo Wu was somewhat dazed. She couldn't understand why Tang San would make such a suicidal charge, he was only a control system Spirit Master! Without control, a control system Spirit Master was nothing. Could he really want to collide head on with a power attack system Spirit Master? And still a power attack system Spirit Master's third spirit ability? Wasn't that suicide?

Even more, Huo Wushuang, Huo Yun, and Huo Yu's attacks would follow directly afterward. Let alone breaking through the Fire Leopard Spirit Master's obstruction, even if he did have that strength, as long as the Fire Leopard Spirit Master's attack slowed him down for just a moment, he would be met with three powerful attacks from behind.

Was Tang San truly suicidal? Impossible.

The Fire Leopard Spirit Master couldn't help inwardly exulting when he saw Tang San dashing at him. He immediately arrayed his third spirit ability, Explosive Seven Star Bullets, in a perfect formation to hit Tang San. He had complete confidence in his spirit ability, especially when under the boost of the two auxiliary system Spark Spirit Masters. Even if it couldn't compare with most Spirit Masters' fourth spirit abilities in strength, it wasn't far off.

Indeed, the Fire Leopard Spirit Master's third spirit ability was very powerful. Even Tang San would inevitably be injured if he was hit, let alone going on to block the attacks coming from behind. But the Fire Leopard Spirit Master had forgotten one thing, or perhaps it should be said he basically hadn't expected it to happen. Even the most powerful spirit abilities were useless if they didn't hit the opponent.

Tang San had never been a simple Spirit Master, that had never been his destiny ever since arriving in this world. Because he came from the Tang Sect of a different world, and he had inherited Tang Sect's peak secret skills.

Could the scattering Explosive Seven Star Bullets truly block Tang San's every path forward? Seventy might, but never seven.

To the eyes of the Fire Leopard Spirit Master, Tang San's body suddenly seemed to have become illusory, completely turning into light and shadow. He seemed weightless, twisting bizarrely in the air a few times, stepping at a mysterious pace that unexpectedly let him bore straight past the seven energy bullets. Not only didn't he touch even one, he didn't even make a sound. Everything he saw was like a hallucination.

The Fire Leopard Spirit Masters' pupils abruptly expanded, he also

had plentiful combat experience. Even though he didn't know how Tang San had been able to simply 'walk' through his attack like that, he still reacted instantly, using all his strength to control the Explosive Seven Star Bullets he had shot out to return and strike Tang San's back. In terms of spirit ability control, this was already the limit of what he could accomplish.

However, no matter how exquisite his control was, those seven energy bullets were still only chasing a back. And Tang San advanced.

In the crisis, the Flame Leopard Spirit Master's battle ability erupted completely. Extending both hands, a ball of intense flames erupted from his palms. In this limited time, all he could use right now was his first spirit ability, Flame Howl^[9].

He knew, as long as he could block Tang San for a moment, his closely following Explosive Seven Star Bullets as well as his companions' attacks would catch up. At that time, Tang San would be defeated.

Even though he knew that Tang San's spirit power was higher than his, he still didn't believe that his strength wasn't enough to block Tang San for just that long.

This moment, besides the ongoing fights on the other four stages, the entire arena became silent. Almost all the gazes from the onlookers were focused on Tang San. They all wanted to see just how the soul of Shrek Academy's team, possessing a ten thousand year fourth spirit ring Tang San, would face this situation.

Could he be blocked? Tang San gave the answer under the gazes of several tens of thousands of spectators. Using Ghost Shadow Perplexing Step, he didn't just step past the attack of the seven Explosive Seven Star Bullets, but simultaneously also stepped past the Fire Leopard Spirit Master.

He really was too fast. Even though he wasn't an agility attack system Spirit Master, relying on Ghost Shadow Perplexing Track, with just one slightly staggering movement, he had already moved around the Fire Leopard Spirit Master.

Just this one simple action completely changed the situation. The one confronting the attacks of the three Blazing Academy team members from behind and the attack of the Seven Star Bullets was no longer Tang San, but rather the Fire Leopard Spirit Master himself.

Standing stably, dropping his shoulder, striking back. The three motions were as smooth as breathing, Tang San didn't give the Fire Leopard Spirit Master any more time to react, before his shoulder heavily struck his opponent's back.

Accumulated Mysterious Heaven Skill erupted in a flash. The Fire Leopard Spirit Master only felt an irresistible force spread from his back through his whole body, and immediately afterward he was launched flying.

The Flame Howl was confronted with the returning Seven Star Bullets, and those three pursuing comrades of his watched helplessly as foe became friend, and all they could do was to as much as possible redirect their attacks to the sky.

Otherwise, their team member would inevitably be turned to ash by their combined assault.

At this moment, Blue Silver Grass quietly acted. The Blue Silver Grass twisting around Dai Mubai, Tai Long, and Huang Yuan's waists suddenly tightened, their speed increasing in the blink of an eye.

From surrounding the enemy, from being surrounded by the enemy under the Defying Flame Ring's effect, then again back to surrounding them. Everything happened at lightning speed.

At this very moment, Tang San had for the first time in this Continental Advanced Spirit Master Academy Elite Tournament revealed his own talent for battle.

Spirit abilities would never be the full strength of Spirit Masters, and this was even more so for Tang San. Just relying on Ghost Shadow Perplexing Step and his own keen judgement, his tactics had already successfully reversed heaven and earth.

Hong——

The Fire Leopard Spirit Master crooned miserably, his body scorched black by the bombardment of his own Seven Star Bullets. If not for his own fire attribute, and his exceeding familiarity with his own third spirit ability, this alone would have caused him serious injuries.

His three comrades also didn't feel much better. The feeling of misusing strength to forcefully change direction of their spirit abilities was extremely painful, almost making them spit blood. The three staggered uncontrollably, and behind them, Dai Mubai's trio already arrived swiftly.

If their attack struck, then the White Tiger Vajra Transformed Dai Mubai alone would have been enough to smash the three staggering opponents before him.

The battle had already advanced to a white hot stage, each moment could be the key to victory or defeat.

At this moment, the control system Spirit Masters of both sides completely showed their importance as the souls of the teams. Seeing absolute advantage turn to absolute disadvantage, Blazing Academy team's control system Spirit Master Huo Wu acted once again.

Another ring of intense flame erupted, Defying Flame Ring appearing on the battlefield for the second time. Practically the same scene as before appeared again. The instant Shrek Academy was about to defeat their opponents, they were shot out by the Defying Flame Ring. While on the brink of catastrophe, the crisis of Blazing Academy's main assault force was resolved.

Even though Huo Wu had saved her teammates at the crucial moment, right now she was already covered with a layer of sweat. She knew that even though she already had a high estimation of Tang San, she had still underestimated him.

His close combat abilities were in no way as simple as an ordinary control system Spirit Master's. That bizarre footwork, could it be some spirit ability? But, he couldn't have any more spirit abilities. Then, was it a spirit bone?

It was in no way just Huo Wu thinking along these lines. In the VIP seats, a lot of people already had similar notions.

“Was that the power of a spirit bone?”

Nobody knew who spoke first.

Sitting in the front row of the VIP section, emperor Xue Ye, as well as Seven Treasure Glazed Tile School master Ning Fengzhi and platinum bishop Salas shook their heads practically simultaneously. At this moment, their eyes were filled with shock.

But the three could still be certain, that wasn't the power of a spirit bone.

Because Tang San's pace lacked the particular spirit power fluctuations that came with the use of a spirit bone. That should only be a technique, a simple close combat technique.

Ning Fengzhi held his forehead, laughing wryly in his heart, 'Ah, Tang San, how many times are you going to shock me before you're done?'

Notes

1. (火无双) “Fire Incomparable”
2. (火云) “Fire Cloud”
3. (火雨) “Fire Rain”
4. (火鹤) The term is also the name for Anthurium andraeanum, Fire Crane Lily, but in this case it should simply be the literal meaning.
5. (火星) Literally “Fire Star”
6. (火舞) “Fire Dance”, same wu as in Xiao Wu.
7. (火影) Alternatively “Fire Reflection”
8. (抗拒火环) Or “Resisting Flame Ring”, “Anti Flame Ring”.
9. (火啸)

101 – Fireproof, Blue Silver Grass

Part 1

Salas' expression became extremely heavy, without letting anyone know what he was thinking. The calmest was instead emperor Xue Ye, a faint smile at the corners of his mouth. Watching Tang San on the stage, there seemed to be a praising light in his eyes.

Their attack was broken by the Defying Flame Ring yet again, and this time even Tang San was thrown out, temporarily halting the battle between both sides,

Having escaped disaster, Huo Wushuang and the others didn't hesitate to swiftly form up with the other three team members, returning to their original triangular formation. On the other side, the Shrek Academy's seven also gathered.

Jiang Zhu's healing scepter was already stuck to the ground, releasing ring after ring of recovering light, dispelling the influence the fire attribute spirit power had on everyone. Her healing was many-sided, and one of her spirit abilities could expel all kinds of abnormal conditions.

Refreshing bursts transmitted into the Shrek Academy team members, making their spirits swiftly recover.

Both sides looked at each other, neither anxiously starting the fight again. On the surface it seemed both sides had come out equal, but in fact, it was still the Shrek Academy side that held the advantage.

Practically all the Blazing Academy team members had used their third spirit abilities all out, while on the Shrek Academy side, only Dai Mubai had used his White Tiger Vajra Transformation. Huang Yuan and Tai Long hadn't fully released their third spirit abilities.

In terms of spirit power consumption, it was clear who held the advantage. Even more, ever since the start of the battle, the

mainstay and soul of the team, Tang San, hadn't used even the simplest spirit ability. He'd just used the basic Blue Silver Grass.

Huo Wushuang turned his head, looking face to face with Huo Wu. The moment their gazes met, they simultaneously gave an imperceptible nod.

Huo Wu slowly raised her hands, a pair of orange flames emitting from her palms, rising a meter high.

This seemed to be a signal, and the other six Blazing Academy members moved simultaneously.

The fiery light around the two auxiliary system Spirit Masters grew, and they released their third spirit abilities once again, without sparing any effort. But this time their target was only one person, the one whose hands was releasing flames, Huo Wu.

Cloud after cloud of condensed sparks poured into Huo Wu. The orange flames in her palms became increasingly bright, but still didn't rise excessively, but rather gradually changed color. From orange it turned to white orchid, from white orchid to incandescent white.

The previously scorching fiery light abruptly vanished the instant the flame turned white, as if it no longer was a flame.

As for the four attackers, led by Huo Wushuang, the four stood in a line in front of Huo Wu, keeping a defensive formation. Their third spirit rings all simultaneously flared with light, clearly prepared to block any sudden attack from Tang San's side.

Purple color blossomed. The color of a spirit ring, but it was no longer the third, but the fourth. Huo Wu's fourth spirit ring.

The purple light fused together with the incandescent white in her palm, the light of the flame making her seem illusory.

Tang San's expression became a bit more serious. He could of course see that under the support of the two auxiliary system Spirit Masters' full strength, Huo Wu's fourth spirit ability would in no way be as simple as common fourth spirit abilities. Its might could even outstrip a fire attribute Spirit Master's fifth spirit ability.

Her spirit was even a bit more tyrannical than Huo Wushuang's Fire Dragon.

As a fire control Spirit Master, this Huo Wu was who Tang San thought of as the most powerful enemy in this match.

“Huo—— Wu——, Brilliant—— Sun——^[1]!”

Huo Wu called out in a clear bright voice, with each word, the incandescence in her became a bit more intense, and along with the last ‘sun’ word, an enormous ball of white flame had condensed over her head, radiating light like a true sun. At this moment, even the real sunshine in the sky was eclipsed by it.

In the VIP seats, Ning Fengzhi agitatedly said:

“The power of the flame is introverted, without emitting outwards at all. This young miss has already reached a terrifying degree of spirit control. That shouldn't be her own strength, but that of three people. This time Shrek Academy will perhaps be in trouble.”

Tang San saw that Huo Wu had chosen her fourth spirit ability exactly the opposite of him. What he had chosen was group control capability. But she had chosen an extremely potent attack capability. But it was an attack capability that could use the full power of their combined team.

He could clearly sense that, hidden under that incandescence, Huo Wu's gaze was firmly fixed on him. And that sun, brimming with white heat, was also locked on him. Had she combined the strength of three people to defeat him? It really seemed that way.

A trace of a faint smile showed at the side of Tang San's mouth, the seriousness on his face fading as he watched the seven opponents. Because, he knew that it was already impossible to stop Huo Wu's spirit ability, and he didn't need to conceal anything.

Dai Mubai and the others were all brimming with anxiety, because until this moment, Tang San still hadn't given any instructions.

As the soul of the team, the Shrek team's attacks had always been managed by him, but now he still gestured at everyone to keep

back, just watching the opponents accumulate power.

Did they still have any advantage under these circumstances? As captain, Da Mubai was deeply concerned.

And at this moment, Tang San still repeated the signal to hold back behind him, but he himself, just like that walked towards the seven opponents.

Advancing step by step, Tang San's pace was extremely relaxed, still a trace of a smile on his face. When confronting seven opponents, he seemed to say, 'Don't you want to deal with me? Fine, I'll put myself in front by myself and let you attack.'

Huo Wushuang's expression had changed somewhat. Even though Tang San was smiling, his smile as he looked at Huo Wushuang held naked provocation. If they hadn't arranged their tactics long in advance, he would have been unable to keep from rushing out to punch him.

Tang San's Blue Silver Grass was now already connected to each of the Shrek Academy team members, but he didn't move it. By now, he was already five meters in front of the team.

"You're very powerful, even more powerful than I imagined."

Huo Wu suddenly spoke up. Her voice trembled somewhat, but still hadn't lost its sweet melodiousness. That trembling was clearly caused by that 'sun' above her head. Her gaze was just like Tang San had sensed, fixed on him.

"But, victory is still ours."

Huo Wu was finally unable to persevere, with the spirit power of three people coursing into her fourth spirit ability under her control, storing power for this long was already her limit.

The sun had shifted, floating forward half a meter. As Tang San clearly saw Huo Wu attentively gazing at him, that sun had already become a stream of light, abruptly bombarding towards him.

This couldn't be dodged in any way. Different from the previous

Seven Star Bullets, the moment it was launched, this dazzling sun had already completely locked on Tang San, and its speed exceeded what even the fastest agility attack system Spirit Master could achieve.

Tang San didn't flee, he didn't even move. Even more, he didn't call out to his team members to assist him. He simply sat down, and only used the simplest spirit ability.

Blue Silver Grass first spirit ability, Binding, launched.

Fine Blue Silver Grass quietly gathered around Tang San. Since it was his first spirit ability, it was clearly the fastest to use.

In just a split second, the Blue Silver Grass that was originally wound around his companions had already completely twisted around him, to the extent that it didn't even show any skin.

Everyone just saw Tang San's first spirit ring flash and Blue Silver Grass winding around him, the next moment, he was already completely swallowed by that incandescent sun.

Xiao Wu shrieked and was about to run forward, but was held back by Dai Mubai.

"What are you doing?"

Xiao Wu practically roared.

Even though Dai Mubai's face was also hesitant, he still rigidly held on to Xiao Wu's arm,

"Trust him, don't tell me you think he's a person who would do anything without being sure of the outcome?"

Hearing Dai Mubai's words, Xiao Wu couldn't help looking distracted a moment, just what is called being confused out of concern, her brows wrinkled slightly, and then she also calmed a bit. But her gaze was still filled with anxiety.

Seeing Tang San already completely swallowed by that incandescent light, the seven Blazing Academy team members clearly loosed a breath, all showing relieved expressions.

Huo Wu's rather looked fatigued. Controlling such enormous energy, and releasing her third spirit ability twice in succession and her fourth spirit ability once, her spirit power already approached exhaustion. The two auxiliary system fire attribute Spirit Masters next to her had also exhausted more than fifty percent of their spirit power.

But they all believed that as long as they could defeat Tang San, the remaining Shrek Academy members were no threat.

Even if the other person required to use their spirit fusion ability was on stage, how could they still be able to win this battle?

Huo Wu had already considered whether she should weaken the strength of her spirit ability. Just in case Tang San lost his life in that white-hot flame, wouldn't that disqualify the Blazing Academy?

Just at this moment, something nobody had anticipated happened. A clear and calm voice transmitted out from that white flame.

Part 2

"You're too naive. That's what I wanted to say before, you've been mistaken all along."

The pupils of Huo Wu's eyes instantly contracted, Huo Wushuang's eyes opened wide, his eyes brimming with disbelief.

As the white hot flame gradually faded, it had even melted a big hole in the ground. However, within that gradually weakening flame, floated a large cocoon. No, to be precise, it was suspended over the hole by Blue Silver Grass. Several strands of Blue Silver Grass were connected to the edges of the hole to support it.

That big cocoon was completely formed from Blue Silver Grass, only now the Blue Silver Grass had completely turned a fiery red, revealing a dazzling radiance. Along with the incandescent flame fading, they also began to slowly separate, automatically weaving a big net over the hole, supporting that person.

Tang San stood there quietly, straightening his somewhat creased uniform, his gaze flatly watching the not distant, already completely

lifeless, seven Blazing Academy team members.

“Did you really think I didn’t use spirit abilities out of fear of your flames? Not all plants fear fire. There will always be exceptions. You were lead to make this false conclusion by me from the very start. You thought to rely on your fire attribute spirits to massively restrict my capabilities. That’s why you used such unscrupulous attacks, right? Unfortunately, your judgement was in error. I didn’t use spirit abilities in order to have you continue being mistaken. Until now, you have already consumed far, far too much spirit power. Let me tell you a fact. My Blue Silver Grass, is fireproof.”

Hong——

The stands seemed to explode. All kinds of commenting voices rose and fell, those supporting Shrek Academy cheered, those supporting Blazing Academy shouted indignantly. But none of this could change the result of this match.

Black light burst from Tang San, his gaze once again falling on Huo Wu, meeting her absent-minded stare. The two of them had been fighting from the very start. But at this moment, this fight was already over. Over, without any suspense.

Seven beams of black light shot up, blue silver cages forming instantly, completely enveloping the seven Blazing Academy students. Let alone the spirit power they had used up, even if they hadn’t, breaking through the restraint of this ten thousand year spirit ability wasn’t that easy. At least, they couldn’t rely on fire to break it.

Octagonal Mysterious Ice Grass, Infernal Precious Apricot, it was the first time the effect of the two great immortal treasures appeared in a fight. Relying on their forging in the Ice and Fire Yin Yang Well, not only Tang San’s body, but even his spirit possessed immunity to fire and ice.

If it wasn’t out of consideration for his clothes, previously when he faced that flame attack, Tang San didn’t even have to use Blue Silver Grass to defend.

When Huo Wu condensed her fourth spirit ability, Tang San had

already seen that this spirit ability relied completely on high temperature to attack, without any impact. Therefore, let alone when condensing the fire attribute spirit power of three people, how could even thirty have any effect? Right now it wouldn't be easy even for a Title Douluo's flame ability to burn Tang San.

The appearance of seven Blue Silver Prisons put the end to this match. Perhaps the Blazing Academy students still had some strength they still hadn't used, but when Tang San broke Huo Wu's fourth spirit ability, this match had already ended. Because the Blazing Academy team had already completely lost their fighting spirit. Even their captain, Huo Wushuang, was no exception.

"We, con——cede——."

The words were practically squeezed out between Huo Wu's clenched teeth. Grinding her teeth, she constantly stared fixedly at Tang San. They were equally fortieth something ranked Spirit Masters, but the feeling this youth who still seemed younger than her gave her was deep and immeasurable. He was like an endless mine, constantly revealing new abilities, bit by bit.

And each time, his opponents would suffer defeat.

Just as Dai Mubai said Tang San would never do something without a chance of success, and today was no exception. Since he dared step away from the team to confront the Blazing Academy, he was naturally certain. And this certainty was based on his fire immunity.

If it was a frontal confrontation, perhaps the Shrek Academy side would have to expend a lot of strength. After all, the gap in strength between both sides wasn't large. But Tang San relied on his ingenious planning in a battle of wits with Huo Wu. Without spending much of either his or his companions' spirit power, he had obtained ultimate victory, defeating the second of the five elemental academies.

If the fight against the Elephant Armored Academy had made a name for Shrek Academy, then, the present fight had finally pushed Shrek Academy's name to the summit of the qualifiers. This moment, nobody doubted they would be competing for the number one

position in the qualifiers.

The audience weren't fools, they still clearly remembered that Shrek Academy had brought out four Spirit Ancestors over fortieth rank in the fight against the Elephant Armored Academy. But this time there were only two. This proved something, proved that they still had strength left.

Withdrawing the Blue Silver Prisons, both teams got back into formation as the referee came back on the stage. The result of this match was already settled, even without anyone being injured. But right now the expressions of both teams had already made a complete reversal.

The faces of the seven Blazing Academy members no longer had the confidence from before, replaced by unreconciliation. Especially Huo Wu. Her big beautiful eyes stared rigidly at Tang San, as if she wanted to bite him. She was unreconciled, truly unreconciled.

Always in the past, she had been a darling of the academy. Among the five great elemental academies, her strength was absolutely in the top five, maybe even the top three. But losing like this to a nameless opponent, and moreover losing in both intelligence and strength, that was absolutely an unpleasant feeling.

This fight was an enormous blow to her, and that helpless feeling when facing Tang San was especially painful.

How they had ultimately lost even though she felt they were stronger than the opponents, and even the loss was somewhat mysterious, all because of the simple word 'fireproof'.

"We'll still meet again. Next time, you won't have such luck."

Huo Wu glared at Tang San with burning eyes.

Tang San smiled calmly,

"Any time."

Shrek Academy, eleven fights and eleven wins. Blazing Academy, eleven fights with ten wins and one loss. Even though it was only one

loss, it was still enough to separate them from the true leading group.

Both sides withdrew under the cheers from the audience. Tang San had just stepped off the stage when Oscar, Ma Hongjun and the others already came rushing over.

Oscar laughed out loud, saying:

“Little San, you’re really quite something.”

They all knew about the ice and fire immunity of Tang San’s Blue Silver Grass, but being able to use it like this had broadened everyone’s minds. A fight that should originally have been bitter had ended so easily.

No doubt that boosted the Shrek Academy team’s confidence to the peak.

When the Shrek Seven Devils and the others walked into the rest area, whether it was contestants who still hadn’t fought or who had already fought, all looked at them with somewhat reverent gazes, especially when they looked at Tang San.

In these Continental Advanced Spirit Master Academy Elite Tournament qualifiers, Tang San could be said to be in the strongest limelight.

Especially when they confronted the Elephant Armored Academy and in their match against Blazing Academy just now, he had even more managed to reverse heaven and earth.

Naturally the Blazing Academy team members also returned to the rest area, they were all unreconciled, but what could they do even so? Following the end of the match, they gradually calmed down.

Whether it was Huo Wushuang or Huo Wu, both understood that even if they hadn’t been outsmarted by Tang San, it would still have been very difficult to defeat Shrek Academy.

Tang San, the soul of the team, possessed fire immunity. That was too large a restriction on them.

With the existence of such a control system Spirit Master, they wouldn't have any chance.

"Huo Wushuang, in a few days we'll take revenge for you."

While the Blazing Academy party was depressed, a somewhat deep voice echoed. Everyone looked in the direction of the voice, seeing a contestant in a cyan uniform walking over towards them.

The cyan uniform was embroidered with decorations in silver thread, reflecting dazzling light at the Blazing Academy uniforms. It was another of the five elemental academies, Godwind Academy.

The speaker was Godwind Academy's captain, and simultaneously their team soul, the Godwind Academy team's control system Spirit Master, Feng Xiaotian^[2].

Even though he spoke to Huo Wushuang, his gaze was all along settled on Huo Wu, an unconcealable blazing heat in his eyes.

Huo Wushuang snorted coldly,

"We couldn't do it, are you certain you can?"

Feng Xiaotian grinned, saying:

"Wushuang, you know that's not what I mean. You didn't lose in strength, but rather in attribute restraint. That Tang San just happened to be immune to fire, otherwise, little sister Hui Wu's fourth spirit ability might have already destroyed him. However, even if he's immune to fire, he might not be immune to wind. Even though those Thunderclap Academy fellows can restrain us, this Shrek Academy won't be able to. There are a great many circumstances where restraining attributes can decide victory or defeat in battles between Spirit Masters, you don't need to be so depressed."

Listening to Feng Xiaotian's explanation, the expressions of Huo Wushuang's team improved a bit. Just at this moment, Huo Wu suddenly spoke up:

"Feng Xiaotian, aren't you very interested in going out with me?"

Part 3

“Ah?”

Feng Xiaotian's eyes opened wide. Even though he'd always had that intention, having it pointed out by Huo Wu in front of everyone still left him embarrassed.

“Are you or aren't you?”

Huo Wu didn't seem to pay any attention to the many gazes currently focused on them.

Feng Xiaotian looked distracted a moment. He looked at Huo Wushuang to the side, but right now Huo Wushuang was equally astonished, he couldn't understand why Huo Wu would say something like that at this time. He and Huo Wu were siblings, and he'd always been extremely doting towards this little sister.

“Are you a man or not? If you are then be one, if not, then don't. Don't tell me you won't even speak?”

Huo Wu's voice was somewhat cold, perfectly opposite to her spirit attributes.

“Yes, I've always liked you very much.”

Feng Xiaotian didn't want to become a laughingstock, and if he didn't confess now, perhaps he would never have the chance to pursue Huo Wu again.

Huo Wu nodded to him, saying:

“Fine, as long as you can defeat Shrek Academy, defeat that Tang San, I'll agree to go out with you. Big brother, let's go.”

Finished speaking, she took the lead to head outside, leaving behind the stunned Godwind Academy group.

Huo Wu had grown up in an environment where she was the focus of everyone's attention. Even as a girl, whether at home or at the academy, she'd always been cherished. Further adding her extraordinary talent, she had always been at the summit of her

peers. This year she was nineteen, and had already reached fortieth ranked strength. At Blazing Academy this could be said to be unprecedented. Her pride was justified. In appearance, strength, background, she didn't lack the capital for pride. However, right now she was unable to forget Tang San's expression, and even more unable to forget Tang San calling her naive.

To Huo Wu, she hadn't lost just a match, but at the same time she had lost her pride and dignity. The outcome of this match was really a huge blow to her. What she was most unable to accept was that Tang San's attributes restraining hers left her without the chance to turn the tables on him.

Even Huo Wushuang was unable to completely understand his little sister's mind, and for the moment he could only catch up.

Feng Xiaotian stupidly looked in the direction Huo Wu disappeared, only returning to his senses after her silhouette was completely gone.

'What did she say? She said she'd give me the chance to date? As long as I can defeat Shrek Academy's Tang San, she'll agree to be my girlfriend? Heavens, this is practically meat pies falling from heaven.'

As he gradually returned to his senses, unstoppable excitement began to set his heart on fire, liking Huo Wu wasn't a matter of a day or two. Godwind Academy and Blazing Academy were very close, and they also interacted frequently. When he first saw Huo Wu six years ago, he had at once fallen for this beautiful and talented young woman. In order to pursue Huo Wu, he had even put aside his dignity to make friends with Huo Wushuang, and when exchanging pointers with these two siblings, he had never won. But even like this, Huo Wu had always been neither cold nor warm towards him. Now that the chance had finally come, Feng Xiaotian's heart was blazing with the power of love. He suddenly discovered that Shrek Academy's team members were so cute, their victory today had been so timely. 'This really is excellent. The chance is finally here, Huo Wu, just wait, I'll use strength to prove I'm the man who suits you the most.'

.....

The Shrek Academy group naturally didn't know about the agreement the Godwind Academy and Blazing Academy had reached, and without resting long, directly returned to the Academy.

Just as they entered the door, Tang San was called over by Grandmaster. The others were all long since used to this, after all, Tang San was Grandmaster's direct disciple.

Following grandmaster to his office, Tang San closed the door.

Even though Grandmaster's expression was calm, his brows were slightly wrinkled. With a wave of his hand, he indicated Tang San should sit first.

"Little San, you overdid it somewhat."

Grandmaster's unexpected words left Tang San distracted, but he didn't utter a word, calmly waiting for his Teacher's rebuke.

Grandmaster said in a low voice:

"What I mean is that you've already exposed too much of your strength. Among the academy team members in the tournament qualifiers, your show is too distinct. By now, not only is every academy paying attention to you, even those fellows in the VIP seats might be following you extremely closely. This isn't a good thing."

Tang San said with a wry smile:

"Teacher, you've also seen that our opponents are strong. This isn't what I wanted, but if I didn't do it, it would be very difficult for us to win."

Grandmaster sighed lightly, saying:

"I understand. This wouldn't be a problem if you had the backing of a formidable power. But don't forget that last time Blue Sunshine Academy's Shi Nian tried to assassinate you. Why did he dare try that? Because you don't have enough strength behind you. The tallest tree in the forest will be broken by the wind. Right now I'm

considering whether to start keeping you out of the matches until the finals.”

Tang San shook his head, firmly saying:

“No, Teacher, I have to appear. And furthermore, I have to continue leading everyone to continue winning. It’s always better if I alone draw attention than if the whole team does. The opponents’ attention always being on me will no doubt relax their guard against the others. We Shrek Seven Devils are as one. I think this is the only way that can let us go even further in the finals, when our opponents become even more difficult to deal with.”

Grandmaster smiled slightly, walking to Tang San’s side and clapping his shoulder,

“You see very far. Your way of handling things isn’t mistaken. However, you must remember, even if the team’s strength is hidden even deeper, if something happens to you, it will also lead to the collapse of the whole team. I won’t oppose your way of handling things, but from now on, every day when you go to and from the stadium, I will have Erlong go with you. Moreover, no matter when, you must be together with your companions. I don’t want you to have any accidents.”

“Yes, Teacher.”

Grandmaster continued:

“Today you’ve revealed your fire immunity and close combat ability. Honestly, even I didn’t know your close combat had reached such a level. In later matches, there’s no harm in using some of your own fighting skills. With your present spirit power and spirit ring amplification to your body, unless there’s another opponent with a spirit bone, it should be very difficult for people to contend against you without using spirit abilities. You must grasp this point properly. As long as you can do it well, you won’t be just a control system Spirit Master, but also a power attack system Spirit Master. But you must also pay attention in matches, your opponents will also try to restrain you according to your strength. Although your control capability in matches is pretty good, you still can’t draw out the full

strength of your team members, otherwise you would have it a lot easier. This is also where you must pay attention. Among your later opponents, there's still the Godwind, Skywater, and Thunderclap Academies. Among them, I'm not too worried about Skywater Academy. Your greatest threats are the other two academies. Whether it's Godwind Academy's speed or Thunderclap Academy's burst power, they're both difficult to handle. What I mean is, I hope you can give up on these two matches. Like this, while you won't take the first position going into the next phase, but at the same time you won't have to reveal too much of your strength."

In terms of strategy, Grandmaster's proposal was no doubt perfect, as long as they could reach the top five in the qualifiers they would be in the clear, however, did they really had to avoid fighting?

Tang San hesitated moment, but still firmly shook his head,

"Teacher, after the end of this tournament, we will all have to graduate. Let us leave behind something for the Academy."

Grandmaster smiled slightly, saying:

"I knew you'd say that. On the surface you seem very mild mannered, but in fact, deep in your heart you're actually extremely rigid. This kind of unyielding spirit is admittedly good, but you must remember, it's easier to break what's rigid. Back in those days, your father apparently suffered because of this."

"My heart being rigid is perhaps because of your influence."

Hearing Grandmaster mention his father, Tang San couldn't keep his eyes from darkening. Recently he'd obtained a lot of information about his father, even about his life's experience, but, where was his father really? In all these years, he had never returned to see him. If it really was as Grandmaster said, and father really cared for him, then why didn't he return? Even seeing him once would be good!

"You're still young, I hope you can cultivate without distractions. If you really can obtain victory in this tournament, then I'll arrange for you to enter a long period of secret cultivation. Let the outside world forget about you. Because right now, you're not strong enough to

protect yourself, and even more unable to keep you out of the whirlpool of struggle between all sides.”

What Grandmaster said made Tang San’s heart shiver, master and disciple looked eye to eye, and Tang San silently nodded.

.....

One day later, Shrek Academy met their twelfth opponent.

This opponent made Tang San somewhat excited, and left him even thirstier for victory than against Blazing Academy. Their twelfth opponent wasn’t the five great elemental academies, but Blue Sunshine Academy.

The academy led by the Shi Nian who once had almost condemned Tang San to hell.

It was less than an hour to the start of the match, and all academy teams were already waiting in the rest area. This time Shrek Academy wouldn’t appear in the first round, but in the third.

Notes

1. (耀阳)
2. (风笑天) “Wind Laughing Sky”

102 – Hidden Mystery, Seven Gem Spirits

Part 1

Everyone habitually rested in a corner. Eleven successive victories had no doubt long ago made them an existence like a crane in a flock of chickens among these competing academies, and scenes like at the start of the qualifiers when they were jeered at wouldn't appear again.

Even though a lot of people looked at them from all around, it was rare that anyone came close.

In the Spirit Master world, strength meant everything, and it was the same among Spirit Master academies. The feeling Shrek Academy gave everyone was of a team without any features, but it was this kind of team that had become a headache for each team they faced.

Tang San with the ten thousand year spirit ring had become the most favored competitor for Most Valuable Spirit Master in these qualifiers. At present, he already held more than half the votes.

As long as he wasn't defeated, he would without a doubt obtain this distinction. However, defeating a Spirit Ancestor with a ten thousand year spirit ring was easier said than done for these competitors.

The Shrek Academy group gathered leisurely, Ma Hongjun, with a difficult to scratch itch in his heart, said to Tang San:

"Third brother, why not let me go on stage today. I won't use my fourth spirit ability, alright?"

Tang San shot him a glance,

"No way. Zhuqing, you take over for Jiang Zhu today. Any problems?"

Along with everyone spending more and more time together, they participated in more and more fights.

Tang San's authority among the Shrek Seven Devils had already imperceptibly influenced everyone's hearts, especially those four younger than him, besides friendship, they all felt some respect for him.

Right now his position in the team was no lower than Dai Mubai's, or even higher.

Zhu Zhuqing stared blankly a moment,

"No problem."

Oscar puzzled said:

"Little San, that's not needed. We didn't dispatch Zhuqing even when we faced Blazing Academy. Is it needed to deal with trash like that Blue Sunshine Academy?"

Tang San said in a low voice:

"Blue Sunshine Academy might not truly be trash. You haven't paid attention to their record. From the start of the competition until now, Blue Sunshine Academy has only lost three times, and that was each against Elephant Armored Academy, Thunderclap Academy and Godwind Academy. When confronting others, they've won. Right now they're even above Elephant Armored Academy in the total ranking. Moreover, don't forget that dean Flender once warned us that their coaching teacher isn't ordinary. Right now Blue Sunshine Academy has lost to the Elephant Armored Academy, and later in the competition the powerful opponents they'll confront are us, Blazing Academy and Skywater Academy. In these three matches, they have to obtain at least two victories, the chance to advance to the next phase of the competition is in their hands. Further adding the grudge between our teams, I dare say that in today's competition they will inevitably go all out. I'm letting Zhuqing go up in order to ensure our victory."

Dai Mubai nodded:

“Good, we’ll follow little San’s plan. Aren’t those Blue Sunshine kids too arrogant? Today we’ll let them know trouble. Advancing to the ranking competition, that’s lunatic ravings.”

“Hey, are you Shrek Academy’s team members?”

As Tang San began to prepare for the match, a sudden voice interrupted him.

Everyone turned their heads to look. In a cyan uniform, a youth with a somewhat handsome appearance looked at them with a smile.

Dai Mubai frowned,

“That’s right, we’re Shrek Academy, who are you?”

The youth grinned, saying:

“I’m called Feng Xiao Tian, perhaps you haven’t heard my name. That doesn’t matter, we’ll come across each other in the tournament later. I’ve come to encourage you. Definitely make an effort. Destroy that Blue Sunshine Academy.”

En? Dai Mubai and Tang San looked face to face, both somewhat astounded.

Even though they hadn’t seen their opponents’ matches, judging from this fellow’s uniform they could tell he should be from Godwind Academy.

Altogether twenty eight teams participated in the qualifiers, everyone wanted to win, and all wanted to enter the next stage. It was very rare that they interacted. Since the start of the competition, this was the first time anyone took the initiative to be friendly.

Tang San nodded, saying:

“We will.”

Feng Xiaotian smiled:

“You must be Tang San. I believe in your strength. However, you have to be a bit careful. Our Academy once fought Blue Sunshine Academy. Even though their strength is quite ordinary, when they

fought us, I always felt they didn't use their full strength. It seemed they were careful to cover something up. I think highly of you. At least until you meet our Academy, you definitely can't lose. Alright, you rest, I'll leave first."

This fellow left as quickly as he came, leaving behind a pile of words making everyone mystified, and quickly departed. Even if everyone from Shrek Academy were astute, they still couldn't figure out just what Feng Xiaotian wanted, and even less why he would come over to encourage them.

Only Feng Xiaotian knew the answer to this. Finished speaking, he very quickly returned to the side of his team mates.

"Captain, what were you doing?"

"I went to encourage Shrek Academy!"

Feng Xiaotian stated with a smile.

"Encourage them? Captain, you represent our Godwind Academy, in front of so many people....."

Feng Xiaotian made no secret of it,

"What's there to fear, as long as I can marry the beauty, everything else is fleeting as clouds."

One Godwind Academy team member baffled asked:

"How's encouraging the Shrek Academy related to you marrying a beauty?"

Feng Xiaotian said:

"Of course it's related, did you forget? Huo Wu said that as long as I beat Tang San, she'll be my girlfriend. If by some chance someone else beats Tang San before me, won't she also agree to their proposals? Therefore, before meeting us, Shrek Academy can't lose, this is called taking preventative measures."

"Eh....."

Looking at Feng Xiaotian's somewhat idiotically proud appearance,

all the Godwind Academy students couldn't help choking speechlessly.....

Even though the matches still hadn't started, the teams waiting in the rest area could hear the din of the cheering spectators outside.

What drew the most attention from the audience, was without exception the most popular candidates.

But in order to make the competition exciting, these teams would all appear in different rounds each day. Only like the day before when Shrek Academy faced Blazing Academy, would two powerful teams appear in the same round.

Tang San stood quietly, watching the Blue Sunshine Academy gathering quietly in a distant corner and talking about something. Adjusting his breathing, he let the Mysterious Heaven Skill internal strength warm up to peak condition.

All kinds of tactics constantly appeared in his mind, they were all already prepared for the battle.

Without waiting too long, the second round matches ended, and it was time for the teams participating in the third round to appear.

Shrek Academy moved away from the rest area together with Blue Sunshine Academy, the members on both teams watching their counterparts carefully. Compared to the proud Shrek Academy, the Blue Sunshine Academy's seven members all expressed a cold air, a fierce light flickering in their eyes as if they wanted to bite the Shrek Academy team.

Blue Sunshine Academy's seven members were all male, all wearing moon white uniforms, their auras all reserved. Just like Tang San judged, these opponents weren't so easy to deal with.

At the same time as they entered the passage, the Blazing Academy team returning after just finishing a match. Tang San didn't pay any attention to them, but Blazing Academy's members all focused their gazes on them. Especially Huo Wu, who instantly picked out Tang San's silhouette among the Shrek Academy team.

Yi? Huo Wu's heart twitched, her face immediately showing fury, looking fiercely at Tang San, a burst of angry pain in her heart.

It was also no wonder she was angry. Their research into Shrek Academy was already rather incisive, and seeing that Shrek Academy's formation was somewhat different from yesterday, Huo Wu immediately recalled the members constituting Shrek Academy. They had replaced an auxiliary system Spirit Master with a fortieth rank Spirit Ancestor. 'Tang San, you bastard, you only had two Spirit Ancestors when confronting our Blazing Academy, now you've changed to three, don't tell me we're not even equal to this Blue Whatever Academy?'

The more Huo Wu thought, the angrier she got. With a ferocious meaning in her eyes, she deliberately stumbled, her shoulder striking straight at Tang San.

Both teams were passing each other when Tang San suddenly felt a strong with towards his shoulder. Practically subconsciously, his body reacted instantly.

Dropping his shoulder and staggering his pace, his shoulder first shifted back, letting Huo Wu strike and largely neutralizing the force, then, the moment the old force had faded but no new had been born, his shoulder practically stuck to Huo Wu's shoulder, his strength suddenly erupting at the last moment. With a cry of surprise, Huo Wu was directly sent tumbling.

Fortunately this was only Tang San's subconscious reaction, using something similar to the Clothed Eighteen Drops technique^[1]. If she had touched Tang San's poisoned hidden weapons, perhaps she wouldn't have come off so easily.

Seeing his little sister being sent flying, Huo Wushuan hastily moved to catch her. The Blazing Academy team immediately stopped, barring the way for Shrek Academy's seven participating members, glaring at them.

The Blue Sunshine Academy team naturally saw it and stopped as well. Not only did they find it entertaining, but it seemed like it could get out of hand at any moment.

Part 2

At this moment Tang San had already reacted. Seeing Huo Wu sent tumbling, his brows furrowed minutely, wrist wiping across Twenty Four Moonlit Bridges, a Godly Zhuge Crossbow appearing with a flick. His movements were so fast that in practically a split second, with a sonorous mechanical sound, it was already wound.

Tang San did this because he had no choice.

Right now, Shrek Academy's seven were just between Blazing Academy and Blue Sunshine Academy. If by some chance Blue Sunshine Academy ambushed them from the back when Blazing Academy acted, it could very easily lead to casualties.

But with the Godly Zhuge Crossbow it was different. It could guarantee that as long as Blazing Academy dared violate the tournament rules, attacking in the rest area, he could lead his team to kill them instantly, then turning to deal with Blue Sunshine Academy.

Tang San could be certain that at such close distance, the Blazing Academy team members absolutely couldn't resist the Godly Zhuge Crossbow's attack without first releasing their spirits. Even more, they had come straight from a match and were bound to have used up some spirit power.

Tang San's actions were aimed at the whole team, and the moment he flicked out the Godly Zhuge Crossbow, Xiao Wu who had the most tacit understanding with him, had also completed the same action. Dai Mubai and Zhu Zhuqing also pulled out their Godly Zhuge Crossbows immediately afterward, pointing four Godly Zhuge Crossbows at the Blazing Academy team.

Even though they didn't know what it was, the moment the Godly Zhuge Crossbows were pointed at them, everyone in the Blazing Academy immediately felt an ice cold killing intent from the Shrek Academy seven.

Tang San calmly said:

“If you’re looking for trouble, we’ll be happy to accompany you.”

Hu Wushuang glared coldly at Tang San. Even though he felt anything but reassured, as Blazing Academy’s captain, if he shrunk back at this time, how could he be a part of Blazing Academy later? Just when he was about to flare up, he was stopped by Huo Wu.

Huo Wu shot a glance at the chi long black box in Tang San’s hand, “Let’s go.”

Finished speaking, she forcefully pulled her big brother into the rest area.

The Shrek Academy seven didn’t act, and the Blue Sunshine Academy members all revealed disappointed expressions. If Shrek Academy and Blazing Academy fought, let alone breaking the rules, just the spirit power consumption alone would give them an advantage against Shrek in the match.

A faint light flickered, as Tang San’s eyes revealed an ice cold expression. Huo Wu’s expression as she stared fixedly at him before leaving made him somewhat uneasy.

Dai Mubai walked forward once again. While walking, he said to the Blue Sunshine Academy captain next to him:

“You must be disappointed we didn’t fight.”

The Blue Sunshine Academy captain looked to be about thirty. If it wasn’t for the Continental Advanced Spirit Master Academy Elite Tournament being impartial, Dai Mubai would really have thought he was already too old.

The Blue Sunshine Academy team captain snorted coldly, glancing at Dai Mubai, then striding forward with his head held high.

Cold light flickered in Dai Mubai’s eyes, ‘Later, on the stage, I’ll let you know about trouble.’

Immediately after both sides entered the ring, cheers rose like wildfire. And these cheers naturally weren’t for Blue Sunshine Academy. As the greatest spectacle of this round, the place where

Shrek and Blue Sunshine Academy fought was of course the central stage. Shrek Academy had long ago already become frequent visitors here.

“Get rid of them. Kill those guys, long live Shrek.....”

“Twelve successive wins, twelve successive wins.....”

All kinds of cheers constantly transmitted from the stands to the ring, and right now the target of the special commentator in the VIP seats were also directed at this battle.

“The third round matches of the twelfth day are about to begin. I believe everyone has already seen that Shrek Academy will fight in this round. Their opponents, with a record of eight wins and three losses over eleven fights, is Blue Sunshine Academy. Judging by their present record, Blue Sunshine Academy still has a chance. Of course, compared to the Shrek Academy team, their strength is clearly inferior. After all, when they previously confronted a few powerful enemies, they were always at a disadvantage. Today Blue Sunshine Academy faces Shrek Academy. In my estimation, the outcome of this fight isn't in any suspense. The question is only how long Blue Sunshine Academy will be able to hold out under Shrek Academy's attack.”

The introduction was no doubt sharp and unkind. As a special commentator, he didn't have any bias of his own. His bias would only change according to the mood of the audience, and at this moment all the spectators no doubt favored Shrek Academy, and what he said was doubtless to fan the mood in the arena.

“Ah, let's have a look at who the Shrek Academy team formation has exchanged today. It's no longer the auxiliary system Spirit Master Jiang Zhu, but rather the agility system Spirit Master who once fought with Elephant Armored Academy. Let me look over the material. Oh, she's called Zhu Zhuqing. If I remember correctly, she should also be a fortieth ranked Spirit Ancestor, moreover, in the fight against Elephant Armored Academy, she joined hands with Shrek Academy team captain Dai Mubai to use this tournament's first spirit fusion ability, and it was just that spirit fusion ability that reversed the situation, letting Shrek Academy turn defeat into victory.

Having her in Shrek Academy's formation today, don't tell me they think Blue Sunshine Academy is even more powerful than Blazing Academy? We didn't see her in yesterday's fight!"

"Eh, I understand, perhaps it's because they've already attained a record of eleven successive wins, and in order to be on the safe side, Shrek Academy is letting their team members be even a bit more powerful, in order to avoid stumbling over a hidden ditch. Playing it safe like this, worthy of being the kings of the division. I truly am looking forward to their display in the finals. I have a premonition that Shrek Academy will definitely bring a great deal of trouble to some great powers, right?"

This kind of explanation no doubt made the audience even more enthusiastic. In fact, as a result of the qualifiers gaining the audience's massive interest, the ticket prices had already doubled compared to the first day.

However, the explanation no doubt also made the hearts of two teams brim with fury.

One was naturally the Blue Sunshine Academy he said would certainly lose. The other team that had to restrain their anger, was the Blazing Academy that had just entered the rest area.

In the rest area, Huo Wu kicked a chair flying,

"They're too rampant."

Her shoulder was still aching dully, but what she could tolerate the least was that Tang San's strike had not only hit her shoulder, but also the edge of her ample chest. Besides the pain, right now she still had a kind of inexpressible numb feeling that left her even more bitter.

Since childhood, nobody had ever hit her, not even when exchanging pointers with other Spirit Masters, since as a control system Spirit Master, she was never attacked by people like that. Her hatred towards Tang San had no doubt already reached the peak.

Sometimes observing someone's words and gestures was very important, but some people wouldn't do so. For instance, a certain

someone from Godwind Academy's team.

Feng Xiaotian saw the Blazing Academy party return to the rest area, and immediately welcomed them with a smile. Huo Wu's words yesterday had set his heart aflame, and even though Huo Wu's expression was angry right now, he still couldn't help coming over to be friendly.

"Little sister Huo Wu, what is it? Who provoked you? Big brother will vent in your place."

"Huo Wu resolutely glared at Feng Xiaotian,

"It was you."

"Me? Little sister Huo Wu, don't joke with me."

Huo Wu furiously said:

"Why wouldn't it be you? If not for you still not having met Shrek Academy and defeated them, how would we receive this kind of humiliation. Didn't you hear what they said outside?"

Feng Xiaotian said helplessly:

"Fine, fine, blame me, isn't it enough to blame me? I heard it, I heard it. But that kind of comment is only sensationalism, don't pay any attention to it."

To the side, Huo Wushuang said in a low voice:

"Even though he's sensationalist, what he said wasn't wrong. Today Shrek Academy's formation has one more fortieth ranked Spirit Ancestor. Isn't this still looking down on us? As one of the five great elemental academies, are we still lower than a Blue Sunshine Academy? Just now that brat Tang San deliberately struck my little sister."

"What?"

Feng Xiaotian almost jumped,

"Little sister Huo Wu, where did he hit you? Quick, let big brother see."

“Fuck off——”

.....

On the stage, both sides had already entered. The referees on the five competition platforms simultaneously declared the matches started.

What did the audience like seeing the most? As laymen following the crowds, the start of the competition when the Spirit Masters released their spirits was no doubt the most dazzling. The appearance of spirit rings one by one, the effects of different spirits. The dazzlingly beautiful splendor would each time sufficiently incite the audience's mood.

Three fortieth ranked Spirit Ancestors, plus four thirtieth ranked Spirit Elders, even at the very start of the competition, Shrek Academy's spirit power levels completely suppressed their opponents.

Of the Blue Sunshine Academy, only their captain was a Spirit Ancestor with fortieth ranked strength, precisely that thirty years old looking fellow. The others were only thirty something ranked.

Moreover one of them didn't have an optimal spirit ring configuration, three spirit rings were yellow.

The Blue Sunshine Academy's seven appeared very cautious. The moment the referee declared the release of their spirits, the seven quickly gathered together with their captain furthest out in front, adopting a strange formation.

Part 3

Besides the captain, the other six were gathered in a hexagon, vigilantly watching the Shrek Academy seven.

Tai Long laughed out loud, unable to keep from saying:

“Isn't Blue Sunshine really nobodies? There's even someone who doesn't have optimal spirit rings.”

Right now, even Dai Mubai felt that Tang San having Zhu Zhuqing coming on stage was a bit paranoid. The Blue Sunshine Academy team members in front of them weren't even on the level of the several weak advanced Spirit Master academies they'd faced before. This battle basically didn't seem to hold any suspense.

Perhaps the only one who didn't relax his vigilance was Tang San.

He had already become alert even when the two teams had left the rest area, because he had discovered that among Blue Sunshine Academy's members today were four people who hadn't appeared in previous battles.

The gap to the list of names Grandmaster gave him was very large, and among them included that member without optimal spirit rings.

Changing four people? What did this mean? There were only two possibilities. One, Blue Sunshine Academy were preparing to forfeit the match. The other was that they had substantially hidden their strength in previous matches. From the aura the seven Blue Sunshine Academy members who appeared on stage displayed, Tang San discarded the first possibility. Then, that left only the second.

Right now, even though the seven opponents appeared extremely cautious, and moreover seemed to somewhat fear their side, Tang San couldn't catch any true fear in their eyes. Relying on Purple Demon Eye, his perception exceeded that of normal people. He wouldn't let a single detail slip by.

"Gather."

Tang San called.

Even though the Shrek Academy team members didn't understand why he would issue an order like that, they swiftly gathered around Tang San. Six peoples' waists tightened as the familiar Blue Silver Grass twined around them.

"Young master San, letting us rush in and destroy them wouldn't take long?"

Tai Long was the most temperamental, and couldn't help asking.

Tang San didn't open his mouth, the spirit power within him already promoting to the peak, and their opponents still didn't move.

The five matches started simultaneously. On the other four stages everyone were already fighting, only on this central stage was the match still deadlocked. Both sides eyed each other, nobody taking the initiative to act.

Seeing that Shrek Academy didn't directly launch an attack, the Blue Sunshine Academy team captain clearly looked distracted. Tang San clearly caught a trace of disappointment deep in the corner of his eyes.

Tai Long didn't understand why Tang San wouldn't let them attack directly, but Xiao Wu, Dai Mubai and Zhu Zhuqing didn't voice any doubts. Everyone had been together for so long. They had complete confidence in Tang San's directions. At least so far, Tang San had never made any major mistakes in directing the team.

Right now, on Shrek Academy's side, Dai Mubai stood in front of Tang San, and on either side of him were Tai Long and Huang Yuan. On Tang San's sides were separately Xiao Wu and Zhu Zhuqing, with Jing Ling guarding the rear.

"Both teams please start the match."

The referee's voice echoed.

In the VIP seats, the commentator couldn't help saying:

"What's going on? Why isn't Shrek Academy attacking? Don't tell me they would be afraid of this kind of opponent? Blue Sunshine Academy is clearly inferior to them, just casually sending out a few spirit abilities should take the victory."

Sitting upright in the front row of the VIP seats, emperor Xue Ye asked Ning Fengzhi next to him in a low voice:

"School master Ning, in your opinion, why are they still not fighting? Both sides seem excessively cautious. There doesn't seem to be

any comparison between both sides' strength."

Ning Fengzhi smiled faintly, saying:

"Exterior can't signify everything. I think Tang San has definitely discovered something amiss, and just isn't letting his teammates act rashly. This child has a steady will, he really isn't like an only....."

At this point, he subconsciously paused, still with a smile on his face, but without saying anything else.

To the side, platinum bishop Salas concentrated his attention to listen, but as Ning Fengzhi suddenly paused at the crucial moment, a resentful expression flashed through the corners of his eyes, but nothing showed on his face.

Under the referee's admonishment and the booing of several tens of thousands of spectators, both sides on the central stage finally moved.

The first to move wasn't Shrek Academy, but rather Blue Sunshine Academy.

The Blue Sunshine Academy captain seemed to have given up on hiding, his back suddenly straightening, his feet shifting, he retreated one meter, just entering the hexagonal formation of the other six.

When he retreated, the other six simultaneously took a step, their originally crowded hexagonal formation suddenly expanding one size. Bizarrely, even though they had already expanded their formation, the hexagon wasn't in any disorder. The length of their steps was unexpectedly exactly the same. And after retreating, that Blue Sunshine Academy captain's position was right in the heart of this formation.

Clearly, this was a formation they had already practiced for many years, and immediately afterward, Shrek Academy's members could clearly see how each of the seven Blue Sunshine Academy members raised their right hands.

When they released their spirits before, their bodies hadn't shown any changes, even to the extent that nobody could make out what

their spirits were. This was also a significant reason for Tang San's caution. He had researched the spirits of the three who had appeared in previous fights, but what the spirits of the four members who appeared only today were, nobody knew.

Now, the spirits of Blue Sunshine Academy's team members finally appeared in front of everyone.

The moment their spirits truly emerged in front of everyone, as long as anyone who knew anything about spirits saw them, they couldn't keep the pupils of their eyes from contracting.

Appearing in the palms of the Blue Sunshine Academy seven team members, was each a gemstone.

The shape and appearance of the gems in their palms were all different. Round, rhombic, triangular, even drop shaped. Their colors were also like a rainbow. But the instant these seven gems appeared, a dense bright light immediately rose from their bodies, completely enveloping all seven of them.

Gemstone Spirit, it was absolutely a kind of extremely uncommon spirit, but they couldn't be called very powerful. Just like Tang San's Blue Silver Grass, spirits of fairly good quality like this possessed enormous flexibility.

They were different according to the spirit rings they obtained, able to grow in any direction. With power, they could be control system, agility attack system, or even auxiliary system. Everything was up to the spirit rings.

They could be said to be a spirit most dependant on spirit rings.

In the Spirit Master world, more powerful spirits were naturally better, but generally speaking, the majority of spirits were already fixed when they awoke, already possessing a most suitable development path.

But gem type spirits were just the opposite, among all spirits they were the most indeterminate.

Of course, this kind of spirit was also extremely uncommon. The

sudden appearance of seven Spirit Masters with gem type spirits on the stage, how couldn't that make people astonished? Even more, these seven were all from the same team.

The Shrek Academy team members finally understood the reason for Tang San's caution, right now they could also see Blue Sunshine Academy wasn't as easy to deal with as they had imagined.

Dense gem light flickered, the Blue Sunshine Academy captain looked coldly at Tang San,

"You're very calm. However, this is still useless. In front of absolute strength, all tactics and abilities are useless."

Dai Mubai snorted disdainfully,

"Do you think your absolute strength can overpower us?"

The Blue Sunshine Academy captain suddenly smiled, his smile seeming very monstrous, as if four hours after poison was released in the body. Indeed, they had already waited for a very, very long time, waited for this moment to approach.

They would use Shrek Academy's defeat to prove their strength, to tell everyone that they were the most outstanding competitors in this tournament.

"You'll learn very soon."

With that monstrous smile, the Blue Sunshine Academy team captain slowly raised his right hand, raising the gem in his palm up high. His spirit was a round silvery gem, and also the core of the formation.

When he raised the gem up high, his fourth spirit ring also brightened. This was also the only fourth spirit ring in the Blue Sunshine Academy team.

With the same movements as him, the other six team members also raised the gems in their hands, but what brightened were their third spirit rings.

"Little San, let me go."

Dai Mubai had extremely rich fighting experience. The opponents were clearly storing power, and even though the opponents' strength clearly wasn't up to their side, looking at their appearance, they were definitely relying on something. If they didn't take advantage to smash the opponents now, once they had stored up enough strength it would be difficult. Just in case they stumbled over a hidden ditch, how could the gains make up for the losses?

Tang San said in a low voice:

"No, wait for them to store up strength. Since they dare store strength in front of us so brazenly, how couldn't they have some plan. Don't move rashly, listen to my orders."

As he spoke, there was a peculiar expression in Tang San's eyes. If Blue Sunshine Academy's seven members could have seen his gaze right now, they would definitely have caught a trace of disdain and a bit of loathing.

Seven bright rays of light soared up practically simultaneously, with the Blue Sunshine Academy captain as the center, they condensed into a rainbow colored pillar of light in a flash. The pillar of light broke the air more than thirty meters and spread, completely enveloping the seven members in the formation.

Notes

1. (沾衣十八跌) Not sure if there's an official translation, but it's an ancient Han martial style, based on Shaolin boxing.

103 – Seven Fusion Ability

Part 1

Suddenly, only that dazzling light remained on the stage, every trace of the Blue Sunshine Academy seven members gone.

“What’s going on?”

In the VIP seats, emperor Xue Ye exclaimed, muttering:

“This, could this be a seven spirit fusion ability?”

To the side, Ning Fengzhi’s expression was also serious, but he still shook his head, saying:

“It shouldn’t be. As far as I recall, there has never been anyone able to complete a seven spirit fusion ability. But even if it’s not, it should still be a kind of fusion ability, even if it’s not a true spirit fusion ability, it’s still bound to be far more powerful than their own strength. This Continental Advanced Spirit Master Academy Elite Tournament truly lets me widen my horizons. The youths of today are indeed more formidable than we were.”

As the number one support Spirit Master on the Continent, his spirit knowledge was quite extensive, and he had especially studied this kind of gem spirit. After all, the Seven Treasure Glazed Tile Pagoda was a kind of sublimation of gem class spirits, only sublimated in a support direction.

Even though Ning Fengzhi wasn’t sure how an ability so similar to seven spirit fusion ability would appear, but he vaguely guessed that this should be the result of a certain fit between the Blue Sunshine Academy’s seven members’ spirits, managing to launch a combined group ability with special spirit abilities after obtaining their spirit rings.

And at this time, perceptive people could also see the cultivation route of the Blue Sunshine Academy seven. And this also left a lot of

people extremely stunned. Because, the Blue Sunshine Academy's seven members were unexpectedly all control system Spirit Masters.

One team with seven controllers, this was the first time in all Continental Advanced Spirit Master Academy Elite Tournaments that this had appeared.

The pillar of condensed rainbow-colored light spread in a flash. In an eyeblink it had filled the whole arena, all kinds of gem light spreading from within. That dazzling light didn't seem to have any attack power, but the audience in the stands were already completely attracted, a dazzled and stunned feeling making a lot of ordinary people bewildered.

Shrek Academy's team of seven still hadn't moved, because Tang San didn't let them.

But they had also changed somewhat. Besides Tang San, the other six now all had their eyes closed. Their formation had also changed, unexpectedly somewhat imitating the opponents, six people standing in a circle with Tang San at the center, watching that seven colored light approach.

"Shrek Academy fools, you should feel honored, because you will be the first opponents to taste our Seven Asura Dreamland. Die from your own pain. Goodbye."

The seven colored light suddenly expanded, instantly covering the whole stage. The stage was round, as was that seven colored light pillar. At this moment, that soaring light practically lit up the whole stadium.

The indistinct luster was brimming with a bizarre atmosphere.

The Shrek Academy team's seven had already been completely enveloped, or perhaps it should be called swallowed.

The entire audience was absolutely mute, and the commentator in the VIP seats was even more unable to say a single word. From the start of the competition, who could have anticipated something like this? Even the four matches to the sides halted.

That seven colored beam of light was really too dazzling. Not just these competing students, but even the coaching teachers were unable to hide their shock.

Was this really a match between academies? Even Spirit Hall's Continental Spirit Master Ranking Competitions shouldn't have something like this?

Not just emperor Xue Ye thought of the name 'seven spirit fusion ability', but the others who did lacked a Seven Treasure Glazed Tile School master to explain it to them.

With circumstances reversed, the seven colored pillar of light became a symbol, the symbol for the sudden rise of Blue Sunshine Academy.

Even though the match still hadn't ended, those tremendous spirit power fluctuations changed the way all spectating Spirit Masters looked at the battle.

And the audience's way of looking at it was even more direct. That tremendous and dazzling light was the most magnificent since the start of the competition. Even though a lot of people inwardly supported Shrek Academy, spectators were after all spectators, only figures of power could remain in their hearts.

Right now, not only didn't anyone cheer for Shrek Academy, but a lot of people even silently contemplated Blue Sunshine Academy's name.

What was a seven spirit fusion ability? Wasn't it the formidable ability launched by the completely integrated spirits of seven people? This was a legendary formidable spirit ability. It was also a major reason why Ning Fengzhi said it had never been seen.

Consider, Dai Mubai and Zhu Zhuqing using the spirit fusion ability was already enough to completely reverse heaven and earth against an equally matched opponent. Grandmaster, Flender and Liu Erlong's trinity spirit fusion ability had made them world famous.

And if it truly was a spirit fusion ability used by seven people?

What kind of amplification would that be?

Even if Seven Treasure Glazed Tile School master Ning Fengzhi launched his Seven Treasure Glazed Tile Pagoda effect with all his strength, he would still be inferior. Enough to kill any Title Douluo.

If that truly was a seven spirit fusion ability, then, there would be no need to continue with this Continental Advanced Spirit Master Academy Elite Tournament. Let alone the participating academy teams, even veteran Spirit Masters wouldn't stand a chance.

Unless it was a team of three or more Title Douluo, who would dare say they could prevail over that kind of legendary spirit ability?

Indeed, it was a divine ability. Seven spirit fusion ability was publicly recognized in the Spirit Master world as a divine ability.

In the stands for the competing academies, Flender and Liu Erlong were already on their feet. Liu Erlong was somewhat better, but Flender anxiously wanted to rush out, even rush onto the stage.

"Flender, calm down."

Grandmaster exerted himself to grab Flender's arm.

Flender furiously said:

"Calm down your farts! Don't you see that's a seven spirit fusion ability? This thing can't be controlled so easily. Don't tell me you want to let little San and the others die? At worst we'll give up on the tournament, but we have to save them first."

Grandmaster curled his lip,

"Flender, what do you take a seven spirit fusion ability for? If it could be casually used by seven people, how could it be called a divine ability? Even though Blue Sunshine Academy's seven students are pretty good, it's still far from enough to use this kind of divine ability. What they're using is only a seven fusion ability. Blue Sunshine Academy really is lucky to find seven students whose spirits fit so well."

Flender looked distracted a moment,

“Seven fusion ability? Isn’t that the same?”

Grandmaster smiled calmly, pulling him back in his seat,

“Oh, Flender. Ignorance isn’t scary, what’s scary is not knowing your ignorance. Seven fusion ability and seven spirit fusion ability are as far apart as heaven and earth. One relies on the fit of each person’s spirit ability to fuse, one is the complete fusion of spirits, a sublime divine ability. Could those be the same?”

Right now Flender couldn’t take Grandmaster teasing him, and questioned closer:

“Then can little San and the others resist it?”

Grandmaster shook his head,

“Even though the seven fusion ability by far can’t compare to the seven spirit fusion ability, it can still combine the strength of seven people to launch an omnidirectional attack. Even though it looks like seven against seven, as long as the control is enough, it will even give little San and the others the feeling of each fighting seven against one. Under ordinary circumstances, with the strength and teamwork of the seven on stage now, it would be very difficult to resist.”

Flender cursed in rage,

“Isn’t that the same result? Don’t you know that little San and the others had a conflict with Blue Sunshine Academy? If those Blue Sunshine brats were allowed to do as they wished, do you think they would let little San and Mubai and the others off easily?”

Without waiting for Grandmaster to speak up, Liu Erlong to the side also sat back down in her seat, embracing Grandmaster’s arm, smiling:

“Boss Fu, don’t you see? If there was danger, Xiao Gang would be even more anxious than you. He regards little San as a son. Look at his expression. He’s clearly playing with you.”

What was called confused out of concern, Flender, always astute,

came to his senses at Liu Erlong's reminder. Grabbing Grandmaster's neck, he said fiercely:

"Tell me the truth quickly, will little San and the others be in any danger?"

Liu Erlong swatted away Flender's hand,

"How will he speak if you're choking him, don't be impulsive. If you break him, I'll stake my life to beat you."

Finished saying this, she couldn't keep a giggle from escaping.

Grandmaster held Liu Erlong's hand, leisurely saying:

"If it was another seven fusion ability, perhaps it would be very difficult for little San and the others to resist, depending on how much fighting strength they could issue. But these seven Blue Sunshine Academy students still aren't capable of that. Flender, didn't you see their cultivation direction?"

"Of course I saw, they're all control system Spirit Masters. How's that related?"

Grandmaster indifferently said:

"It's greatly related. It's just because they're control system Spirit Masters that I can say they can't do it. Since you saw they followed the control system route, didn't you see what kind of control?"

Flender finally came to himself,

"You're saying..... But can little San and the others really resist?"

Grandmaster shot him a sideways glance,

"You must trust the professionals."

Flender rolled his eyes,

"Alright, I already know you're the symbol of Spirit Master world professionals. But if the little monsters have any accidents, I'll come looking for you."

Part 2

Right now the situation at the center of the stage was invisible to everyone. All that could be seen was that dazzling seven-colored pillar of light.

Tang San stood quietly in place as the opponent's voice echoed from all directions,

"You're too naive, do you think closing your eyes can block our Seven Asura Dreamland? We've already waited far, far too long for this day. Endure the filthiest world you can imagine. Your repressed feelings will leave you especially suffering, until you go insane, this is the price you pay for insulting us. Don't worry, we'll go easy, we'll leave you alive."

Apart from Tang San, the other Shrek Academy members still had their eyes closed. Tang San sighed lightly, indifferently saying:

"The naive ones should be you. Do you believe such a simple illusion can trap us? Compared to Shi Nian's Nightmare, your seven fusion ability is still quite lacking."

Indeed, even though this seven fusion ability would appear magnificently dazzling, and right now all kinds of illusions had already begun to rise from everyone's hearts, compared to when Shi Nian tried to assassinate Tang San, this dreamland spirit ability of theirs was too artless. Essentially lacking.

The seven colored light shuddered once, and even the illusions at the depths of everyone's minds became somewhat vague. Clearly, Tang San's words had been a full hit to the opponents.

"You..... Where is teacher Shi Nian?"

Even though he couldn't be seen, they could tell from the voice that Blue Sunshine Academy's captain was anxious.

Tang San said indifferently:

"You're his students, want to find him? I won't give you the chance. Don't worry, I'll go easy. I'll leave you alive. That's why you won't see

him.”

At just about the same time, Tang San suddenly moved. His figure soared into the bright light, successively kicking six times, but not at the enemies, but rather at the backs of each of his companions.

Six bodies simultaneously flew in six directions, spewing a mouthful of blood at the same time. And in the air, Tang San’s eyes had already turned purple gold. Chi^[1] long rays of purple golden light shot out, flashing in seven different directions.

Miserable shrieks rose practically simultaneously. When Tang San fell from the air, he lightly swatted his stomach with a palm, and immediately afterward, a trickle of blood flowed from the corner of his mouth.

The bright light vanished, and everything in the surroundings became clear again. That enormous seven colored pillar of light had disappeared without warning, but of the originally fourteen people on the stage, only one still stood. That was Tang San.

The appearance of the other six Shrek Academy team members spitting blood was just caught by the audience as the pillar of light disappeared. Seeing them fall to the ground one by one, they had clearly lost all fighting strength.

But their opponents, the Blue Sunshine Academy team’s seven members had long ago already left their previous positions, separating in seven directions on the stage. Right now these seven were also on the ground, but different from the Shrek Academy team, these seven were convulsing violently, spitting foam, eyes rolling.

Just like an epileptic attack.

Tang San’s face appeared very pale and his steps were unstable, swaying from time to time. But his gaze was still unyielding, seemingly telling everyone that he was the final victor.

An uproar. Whether it was the audience or the VIP section, right now everyone were in disorder.

Especially those Spirit Masters who had thought Blue Sunshine Academy had fully used a seven spirit fusion ability were even more unable to conceal their shock right now. When that brilliant light had enveloped the Shrek Academy group, they had all already thought the match was over.

But who could have guessed that Shrek Academy would surprise everyone once again. They hadn't lost even to Blue Sunshine Academy's 'divine skill'.

When the referee declared the final result, he was trembling somewhat. After the participating members of Blue Sunshine Academy had been examined by qualified specialists of the Spirit Master world, the verdict was spirit ability backlash.

Even though the rules of this Continental Advanced Spirit Master Academy Elite Tournament expressly stipulated that you couldn't cripple or kill your opponents, who could be blamed for spirit ability backlash?

Blue Sunshine Academy's participating members were brought from the stage by their own people, while on the Shrek Academy side, Oscar, Ning Rongrong, and Ma Hongjun swiftly ran over. When Ning Rongrong wanted to release her spirit to boost everyone regardless of being revealed, she was stopped by a look from Tang San.

The four of them together managed to help the six on the ground off the stage.

Meeting them was an audience cheering as if welcoming heroes. The Shrek team had yet again defended their position with their own strength. Twelve successive victories was a record to regard with pride.

Just below the stage, being supported, Dai Mubai couldn't help saying:

"Little San, you're too ferocious."

Right now Dai Mubai, helped by Ma Hongjun, could with difficulty manage to walk. Of course, the "with difficulty" part was staged by himself. With his head lowered, nobody could see his expression.

Next to Dai Mubai, Ning Rongrong helping Xiao Wu also lowered her head, unable to keep from saying:

“Boss Dai, what are you saying! Little San didn’t use any strength, wasn’t that blood forced on our own? Don’t tell me he was especially attentive to you?”

Dai Mubai inclined his head slightly, looking at the expressionless Tang San,

“I’m not saying he was ferocious towards us, but rather to those seven Blue Sunshine students. Those seven are perhaps crippled.”

Whether the Shrek Seven Devils or the four substitutes headed by Tai Long, inwardly they couldn’t keep from shivering simultaneously.

Tang San used a voice only the others could hear:

“They were destined to never become our friends. Since it was like that, how could I let these threats exist at our side? If someday I wasn’t here and you ran into them, what would happen? Grass cut above the roots will grow with the spring wind.”

Of course, there was still another reason. With Tang San’s intelligence, from the time these Blue Sunshine Academy members acted he understood that these seven very possibly were the direct disciples of the Brutal Dream Spirit Master Shi Nian he had killed. The impression Shi Nian had made on him really was too deep, and even though he had successfully killed him, he could never forget Xiao Wu’s tragedy in that illusion. He couldn’t allow that to happen for real.

It might appear that he had easily destroyed Blue Sunshine Academy’s seven fusion ability, but if he hadn’t had an ability that just restrained the opponents, the ending would have been completely different.

The conflict between the two sides could no longer be resolved, and if by some chance these people learned Shi Nian had been killed by him and would never return, then they would definitely come take revenge for their teacher.

Taking all this into consideration, Tang San then acted ferociously.

One reason was to eliminate future trouble. The other was his belief that if he started off leniently, the Blue Sunshine Academy seven could figure out his close connection to Shi Nian's disappearance.

But now, they would never be able to reveal this secret. Not even the other six Shrek Academy team members could completely understand just what had happened within that seven colored light.

Naturally he wouldn't reveal this secret either.

Just when Tang San saw their opponents' seven fusion ability he had also been extremely shocked. As Grandmaster's disciple, he had instantly determined that it wasn't a seven spirit fusion ability, but the seven fusion ability the opponents had used could still bring them enormous trouble.

However, his heart had settled very quickly.

Seven Asura Dreamland, in the end it was just an illusion. Purple Demon Eye's ability to eliminate all illusions left him completely certain of victory. That's why he wasn't in any hurry to let his companions act.

Compared to Shi Nian's Nightmare, the Seven Asura Dreamland the Blue Sunshine Academy seven used was still quite lacking. As a result of the enormous spirit power drain of this ability, they were unable to exhibit the kind of meticulous control Shi Nian had that even manipulated the feelings of the victims.

It seemed that the dazzling seven colored light was the best screen to hide Tang San's Purple Demon Eye.

When Tang San had his companions close their eyes, he had already quietly explained his tactics to them. His plan was very simple. He told each of his companions to force out a mouthful of blood when he kicked them away, assuming the appearance of serious injuries.

That was after all a seven fusion ability. If he let outsiders see their side winning easily, wouldn't that expose everything they tried to hide? Showing weakness to their enemies, letting their opponents

look down on them, that was the ideal choice.

Everything after that was logical. Seventy second ranked Spirit Emperor Shi Nian had been made briefly despondent by Purple Demon Eye, let alone these Blue Sunshine Academy team whose highest member was only at the forty first rank.

The instant Tang San set about it, Purple Demon Eye's attack power had reached an extraordinary degree. In that moment, he had clearly grasped the mental states of each of the Blue Sunshine Academy team members.

Due to fully using Seven Asura Dreamland, the Blue Sunshine Academy seven had fully exported their spirit power to become mental strength, this was also their special ability. Under such circumstances, their mental defense could be said to be zero.

Moreover they were even weaker than when they didn't use their spirits. After all, in the middle of such a powerful seven fusion ability, how could they have anticipated that the opponent could still launch a mental plane attack at them?

Part 3

Purple Demon Eye's mental attack directly pierced the brain, causing spirit power backlash. True, the seven Blue Sunshine Academy members weren't dead, but they had already become imbeciles. Certain neurological damage made them forever unable to recover. Even the best healing system Spirit Masters were helpless in front of the incomparably precise system that was the brain.

Tang San had never been a good hearted person, and he was even less like as ordinary as on the surface. Tang Sect itself was both just and nefarious, starting off leniently when facing an opponent that might become a threat would only lead to disaster.

From seeing the opponents' seven fusion ability, to the opponents launching their attack, Tang san had informed his team members of the method to defeat the enemies within the bright light. This process was completed with the speed of lightning. With the force of

thunder, a single strike. The decisive ferocity within it amply revealed the heart of an Asura under Tang San's unremarkable surface.

It was also because of this that Dai Mubai would say Tang San was ferocious. As the strongest of everyone, at that time, apart from Tang San, he had suffered the least influence. Therefore he had vaguely guessed Tang San's way of dealing with it. Regarding this companion, right now even this Evil Eye White Tiger couldn't help but inwardly feel some respect and fear.

The first to express support of Tang San was unexpectedly Ma Hongjun. Fatty's hands supported Huang Yuan and Jing Ling,

"Third brother, I support you, mercy to the enemy is cruelty to oneself."

The gazes of the Shrek Seven Devils flowed together, and nobody made any more doubtful noises. Even though Tang San's explanation was very simple, the feelings of brotherhood between them had no doubt manifested. They all thought of the same thing. If Blue Sunshine Academy had won, would they have gone easy on them?

Returning to the rest area, several hundred gazes fell on them practically simultaneously. When someone outside had shouted the words 'seven spirit fusion ability', the competitors in the rest area had all run out, and also saw the final conclusion.

Blazing Academy's Huo Wushuang and Huo Wu had seen it, and Godwind Academy's Feng Xiaotian had naturally also seen it.

The match hadn't lasted long, and nobody had seen just how Shrek Academy had won. But they all saw the final result.

Not everyone had the insight of Grandmaster and Ning Fengzhi. The shock a seven spirit fusion ability caused all the competitors was difficult to describe in words. However, Blue Sunshine Academy had still lost. After using a seven spirit fusion ability, they had still lost. Moreover, everyone had clearly seen that Shrek Academy hadn't even moved as Blue Sunshine Academy launched their fusion ability, just letting them store power.

Even though only Tang San was left finally standing on the stage,

that Shrek Academy had finally prevailed over Blue Sunshine Academy's seven spirit fusion ability was very difficult to accept for these competing academy members. Especially Huo Wu.

Feng Xiaotian looked at the somewhat staggering Tang San, and inwardly he couldn't help a burst of nervousness. 'Heavens, that was a seven spirit fusion ability. And that actually couldn't beat them? This Tang San is too abnormal. Is he really less than twenty five years old?'

Originally he had complete confidence in himself, believed that Huo Wu would definitely become his girlfriend this time, but after the battle outside just now he was completely without confidence. Looking at Tang San he couldn't help losing spirit.

Tang San indicated Ma Hongjun's trio should release their 'seriously hurt' companions to the side, and let Jiang Zhu use her healing scepter. He himself turned to those hundreds of gazes, only calmly saying one thing.

"You don't need to look at us like that. That wasn't a seven spirit fusion ability."

Ignoring those stunned gazes, Tang San sat down next to his companions and closed his eyes to rest.

Even though it was only a simple explanation, it still pulled him back from a godly position to the category of an ordinary person, and a lot of people had feeling of letting out a long breath.

At this moment, Grandmaster, Liu Erlong and Flender had already rushed over. After Tang San had exchanged a few words in a low voice with Grandmaster, they quickly left the rest area under mutual support.

Watching their disappearing silhouettes, countless competitors immediately started commenting. They all really wanted to believe Tang San's explanation. After all, prevailing over an opponent with a seven spirit fusion ability in a situation where level didn't differ much was impossible. What's more, that seven spirit fusion ability was only a legendary divine ability.

The audience got a feast for their eyes, but the match today also left all sorts of different notions in peoples' hearts. Powers on all sides pondered over just how the Shrek Academy team had obtained victory today.

Very soon, news came from the Blue Sunshine Academy side. All the seven students that participated in the fight had completely lost the ability to think. All had become imbeciles. They had moreover raised stern protests to the organizational committee, demanding severe punishments for Shrek Academy.

For this reason, Heaven Dou Empire and Spirit Hall jointly established a special investigative group, to separately make inquiries into both sides. At the same time, Heaven Dou City's Spirit Temple dispatched two Spirit Sage level healing system Spirit Masters to specially treat the Blue Sunshine Academy seven team members.

But just like Tang San predicted, the brain was the most complex part of the human body. It wasn't something that could easily be restored by healing spirit abilities, and nobody had still truly seen through the mysteries of the mental world. Spirit Hall's treatment was naturally futile.

Returning to Shrek Academy, the Golden Iron Triangle directly gathered the Shrek Academy team's all eleven members to a conference room.

Right now there was no need for anyone to keep acting, and the originally 'seriously injured' six people all returned to normal.

Flender's face was somewhat serious, his gaze first turning to Tang San, and afterwards sweeping across the other six who had participated in the match today.

"If I'm not mistaken, then in less than two hours, the tournament organizational committee will dispatch an investigative team to our Academy to conduct inquiries into the match today. I don't know how you did it, but Grandmaster told me just now that the opponents have completely become imbeciles."

Everyone looked at each other, nobody uttering a word. Everyone's gazes finally concentrated on Tang San.

Flender glared at Tang San, saying:

"You little monster, looking for trouble for me. The seven of you who participated in the match, later immediately go quietly cultivate. I will use your healing process to explain to the other side. Eh, no, little San, you stay behind. We still need someone to be investigated. At least on the surface your injuries were the lightest, that makes you the most suitable candidate."

"Yes."

"The six of you leave now. Erlong, find them someplace hidden, have Zhao Wuji and Lu Ji Bin go there to guard them personally. Don't let anyone see them. Oh, right, call over Shao Bin as well. That Sweet Pea Spirit of his is suitable to cover up their injuries. Jiang Zhu, you go too. Appearance is important, more healing system Spirit Masters is better."

Right now Flender fully revealed the poise of a dean. Liu Erlong stood, smiled at Tang San, praise in her eyes, then brought Dai Mubai and the others away. She was originally the slaughtering corner of the Golden Iron Triangle, so of course she quite liked Tang San's unwaveringly fierce way of dealing with things.

Once Liu Erlong's group had left, only Flender, Grandmaster, Tang San, Oscar, Ma Hongjun and Ning Rongrong remained in the room.

Flender pulled out a chair and sat, but didn't utter a word. He raised his hand to rhythmically tap the table, seemingly pondering something. Grandmaster sat to the side from the start, with a calm and easygoing appearance.

Before long, Flender raised his head, saying:

"Little San, if the investigators later ask you how you broke the opponents' seven spirit fusion ability, how will you answer?"

Tang San sincerely said:

“I don’t know.”

In battle his insight was boundless, but in this kind of scheming, he could never catch up to Flender.

Flender’s eyes brightened, saying:

“Good, remember that answer.”

“Ah?”

Tang San looked distracted a moment, but he reacted very quickly,

“I’ll answer that I don’t know?”

Flender grinned, saying:

“That’s right, whatever they ask you, just say that you don’t know. Tell the investigators that because you couldn’t clearly see the outside at that time, you just constantly released your spirit abilities. Once the surroundings became clear again, everything was already over. You basically don’t know what happened.”

Tang San blinked,

“Will that work?”

Flender snorted coldly,

“Why wouldn’t it? Those investigator fellows are just making the rounds. Nobody actually saw what happened that time. As long as you stick to the three words ‘I don’t know’, they won’t be able to extort a confession. As long as there’s no proof, we’ll say those Blue Sunshine Academy students lost control of their spirit ability, and were turned to vegetables by the backlash. What can they do? Everything needs proof.”

Ma Hongjun behind Tang San thought out loud:

“Isn’t this villainous?”

Laughter escaped from Grandmaster to the side,

“Now you know, in villainy, who can compare to the grandmaster of

scoundrels, Flender.”

Flender unhappily shot Grandmaster a glare,

“Don’t tear down my authority, ok? Little San, do you remember?”

Tang San hastily nodded, indicating he remembered. Wasn’t it the three words ‘I don’t know’? Replying ‘I don’t know’ whatever the question, wasn’t that simple?

Notes

1. 1尺 = $\frac{1}{3}$ m

104 – Singing To The Same Tune

Part 1

The tournament committee's investigative team was formed even faster than Flender had imagined. A group of more than ten people bustled into Shrek Academy.

Flender was shocked to recognize the two people in the lead, he had never expected that the tournament committee would take this matter quite so seriously.

The organizational committee for Heaven Dou City's qualifiers was formed by Spirit Hall and Heaven Dou Empire's imperial family, so the two leaders naturally also came from both sides. What astonished Flender was that the leader representing Spirit Hall was actually Heaven Dou City Spirit Temple's hall master platinum bishop Salas. And representing Heaven Dou Empire was unexpectedly Seven Treasure Glazed Tile School master Ning Fengzhi.

Later all the Shrek Academy people would learn of Ning Fengzhi's status as the crown prince's teacher. Relying on this status, he could also be considered a part of the Heaven Dou Empire's imperial household.

Even though the Blue Sunshine Academy's seven members turning into idiots wasn't a small matter, it absolutely wasn't to the degree that it could disturb two big shots like Ning Fengzhi and Salas. The reason the two of them had come to Shrek Academy together was somewhat funny.

Originally Salas had also only wanted to send a subordinate, he had long ago already made plans to deal with Shrek Academy team's exceptional performance and their tentative relationship with the Seven Treasure Glazed Tile School, but as Spirit Hall's senior member in Heaven Dou City, he of course wouldn't act as rashly as Brutal Dream Spirit Master Shi Nian. Therefore he always waited for

an opportunity. The Blue Sunshine Academy's seven people turning into idiots had doubtless given him the best excuse, and this exceptionally sly platinum bishop had immediately made preparations to kick Shrek Academy out of the tournament.

But would Ning Fengzhi let him do as he wished? When the organizational committee was assembling an investigative team, Ning Fengzhi immediately nominated himself to lead the inquiries into Shrek Academy.

Letting Ning Fengzhi go would doubtless be like folding, but Salas also wasn't willing to give up. With his position, there was in the end still some distance to Ning Fengzhi. The relationship between Spirit Hall and the seven great school had always been extremely ambiguous. Helplessly, this platinum bishop could only go himself, coming to Shrek Academy together with Ning Fengzhi, hoping he could get a handle on things. If he did, even if Ning Fengzhi's position was even higher, he still couldn't obstruct the fairness of the organizational committee.

Therefore, these two lordly characters directly brought a cadre to Shrek Academy.

Ning Fengzhi could be said to be doing things as routinely as driving a chariot on a familiar road. When hearing they had arrived at the Academy gate, Flender hurriedly brought Grandmaster and Liu Erlong to meet them. Before going out, Flender warned Ning Rongrong not to acknowledge Ning Fengzhi later. Best was if she stayed out of the way.

"Dean Flender, we've taken the liberty to disturb you."

Ning Fengzhi smiling nodded to Flender.

Even though there wasn't much difference between their spirit power levels, their position in the Spirit Master world was nevertheless poles apart. Flender hurriedly returned the politeness,

"School master Ning is too polite. To have your presence honor our institution, brings light to our humble Shrek Academy!"

Ning Fengzhi smiled slightly and stepped half out of the way, making

the introductions for Flender:

“This is Heaven Dou City Spirit Temple’s hall master, his eminence platinum bishop Salas.”

With Flender’s slickness, his face didn’t show a trace of change. He hastily bowed once again,

“So it’s lord bishop Salas. This one^[1] is Flender. Please come inside.”

Salas gave Flender a slight nod, and the party of more than ten were guided into Shrek Academy by Flender’s trio.

Ning Fengzhi only brought Bone Douluo Du Rong, while that platinum bishop Salas has fully twelve people along. Among them were two red robed cardinals, as well as ten temple knights in resplendent silver attire.

Within Spirit Hall, besides clergy, there was still still an establishment of temple guard knights. Besides the Holy Emperor Warriors exclusive to Supreme Pontiff Palace and the Douluo Warriors exclusive to Douluo Palace, the Temple Warriors of the two great Spirit Temples had the highest status.

These Temple Warriors were all formed from outstanding Spirit Masters from within Spirit Hall, their strength astounding.

Reportedly, the threshold to enter the Temple Knights was fifty first ranked spirit power. Of course, the admittance requirements to the Holy Emperor Warriors and Douluo Warriors was even higher, reaching sixty first rank.

In other words, any Temple Warrior had at least Spirit King level strength, and Holy Emperor Warriors and Douluo Warriors were even more at the Spirit Emperor level or higher.

This was still only the most basic level requirements for the three great regiments.

For instance, the commanders of the Holy Emperor Warriors and Douluo Warriors both possessed Title Douluo strength. This showed just how deep Spirit Hall’s strength was.

Entering Shrek Academy, Salas' gaze flickered slightly, completely imprinting the scenery in his mind.

In the past he would never have paid attention to a common advanced Spirit Master academy like this, but now it was different. The Shrek Academy team's performance in this Continental Advanced Spirit Master Academy Elite Tournament was truly astonishing. Even though he still couldn't see it clearly, at least it proved that this Academy fostered some elite talents.

Flender directly brought everyone to the first conference room in the teaching building, and both hosts and guests sat. Flender left the seat of honor to Salas and Ning Fengzhi, while he, Liu Erlong and Grandmaster respectfully took the end seats.

"Dean Flender, you should know our purpose in coming here."

Salas raised the teacup in front of him, drinking a mouthful. His face immediately turned ugly. Even though the tea had only just been poured, the quality of the leaves were worse than he could have imagined.

As the Spirit Temple hall master, Salas had always lived like a prince, at what time would he have had such out of the ordinary tea as Stars In The Sky?

What was called 'Stars In The Sky', was used tea leaf grounds sprinkled into a cup of hot water, giving a feeling of being as sparse as stars in the whole sky.^[2]

Only the poorest commoners would drink tea like this.

And the Stars In The Sky that Flender had prepared, was also the Stars In The Sky from Stars In The Sky.....

Ning Fengzhi saw Salas' expression and raised his tea cup to study it. Flender didn't treat them differently, the tea in his cup was exactly the same.

With difficulty resisting a smile, Ning Fengzhi coughed once, saying:

"Dean Flender, your tea isn't up to much!"

Given the chance of using this topic to make a fuss, Flender sighed, saying:

“Please excuse me. Our Shrek Academy really is too poor. All our funds are used to foster our students, painstakingly cultivating a few elite children. It was still several years before I took over the Academy that there would be money to drink tea.”

If Salas’ expression was ugly before, then now his complexion had completely turned ashen. If not for taking his position into consideration, he would already have spit it out. Several years old tea, and moreover such poor quality. Bursts of nausea made him want to retch. But watching Flender’s pitiful appearance, he still didn’t flare up. If others don’t have money, what can you say?

“Dean Flender, don’t change the subject. We didn’t come here to watch your theatrics.”

Salas’ voice was already very cold. No matter who it was, drinking a mouthful of that out of the ordinary Stars In The Sky, their mood would also be terrible.

Flender blankly looked at Salas:

“I still haven’t had time to ask. Just what matter brings lord platinum bishop and school master Ning to honor my academy with your presence?”

Even Ning Fengzhi couldn’t help inwardly gasping in admiration. Flender’s acting really was too well done. If he hadn’t met this dean before, and moreover vaguely guessed that it was Tang San who had crippled those Blue Sunshine Academy students, he too couldn’t have helped being convinced Flender knew nothing.

Salas’ brow wrinkled minutely,

“In the previous match, your academy’s students seriously injured their opponents, causing all seven of Blue Sunshine Academy’s participating team members to become imbeciles. Now the Blue Sunshine Academy has raised a stern protest. Consequently, the tournament organizational committee has formed an investigative group to conduct inquiries.”

“What? Blue Sunshine Academy’s students have all become imbeciles?”

Flender looked at Salas with ‘shock’.

Salas snorted coldly,

“You teach such good students. At a tender age, their methods are so ferocious. You should know the rules of the tournament. This kind of deliberate use of deliberate methods absolutely can’t be forgiven in the tournament.”

What he said sounded very ordinary, but they were all misleading. As long as Flender said one word wrong, he’d immediately grab the opportunity.

“An unjust accusation, lord!”

Flender stood sharply. Because of being wronged, his face was somewhat deformed.

Both his eyes were clearly reddened,

“Lord Salas, we’ve been unjustly accused! Those Blue Sunshine Academy bastards actually dare lodge a complaint? Six of our seven participating students are all seriously injured, three of them even life threatening, right now in emergency treatment by our Academy’s several healing system Spirit Masters. And they still have the nerve to protest? I intend to raise a protest to the organizational committee and apply for an investigation.”

Salas snorted coldly,

“You should know best whether it’s an unjust accusation. Even if you don’t know, call out the Shrek Academy students that participated today. We want to conduct our investigation and interview them separately.”

Flender’s ‘shocked’ expression didn’t show the slightest intent of weakening. He said resolutely:

“No, out of the question. The children’s injuries are too severe. If they’re not treated promptly, let alone participating in the match

tomorrow, I'm afraid it might affect their entire careers as Spirit Masters. What's most important right now is treating them. How could they answer your questions?"

Part 2

A cold light flashed in Salas' eyes,

"By saying this, are you opposing the organizational committee? I can take your actions as refusing to cooperate with the investigation. The tournament organizational committee will then have the right to strike Shrek Academy from this year's Continental Advanced Spirit Master Academy Elite Tournament."

"Wait a moment.

Ning Fengzhi didn't say anything before, only silently watched Flender and Salas' discussion. Now he leisurely said:

"Your eminence, legal doctrine can't exceed reason. Shrek Academy's participating students are seriously injured. It seems inappropriate to rashly make decisions before even investigating."

Salas calmly said:

"Shrek Academy is currently refusing investigation of the participating students, this in itself is a significant issue. How do you believe it should be handled, school master Ning? If we can't even make inquiries, how can we prove their innocence?"

Ning Fengzhi turned to Flender, saying:

"Dean Flender, are all of your noble institution's competing members in serious condition? I recall that at that time there was still one student who was well. Is it possible to let him cooperate with our inquiries? This matter relates to the fairness of the tournament. I'll ask you to cooperate."

In agitation, Flender's eyes were thoroughly red, seeming as if he was about to cry,

“Why must we be investigated? Since the tournament is fair, the judges should have seen the situation at that time. Blue Sunshine Academy’s competing members used a seven spirit fusion ability, don’t tell me that’s going easy? If our students didn’t block their attack, perhaps not even one could have returned alive. Everyone could see that our students only resisted passively, we never did anything wrong. If the tournament organizational committee still wants to expel us, we don’t have anything to say.”

A radiant light flashed in Salas’ eyes:

“You said it yourself.”

Flender glowered at Salas,

“Your eminence, what is the meaning of aiming at our Shrek Academy like this? Fine, I want to see how you’ll expel our Shrek Academy from the tournament. Xiao Gang, tomorrow we’ll go to the Holy City to visit the lord Supreme Pontiff, and have the lord Supreme Pontiff give us justice.”

Ning Fengzhi somewhat anxiously signaled Flender with his eyes. He didn’t know why the always shrewd Flender would suddenly become so impulsive. Could it be that those children really were injured, leaving Flender unable to control his temper?

Flender didn’t seem to have seen Ning Fengzhi’s signal, and while roaring at Salas, he repeatedly beat the table.

“Outrageous.”

A Temple Knight stepped forward, and spirit power radiance flared over all the ten Temple Knights. The two cardinals also stood. As long as Salas gave the order, they would act immediately.

Salas also ignored Flender, turning his head to look at Ning Fengzhi to his side, saying:

“School master Ning. You’ve also seen it. Shrek Academy is this rampant, refusing the organizational committee’s investigation. Without due process, how can we justify ourselves to the other competing academies?”

“This.....”

Even though Ning Fengzhi wanted to help, right now he was powerless.

Salas then turned to Flender, sneering,

“You want to go appeal to the lord Supreme Pontiff? Then you can set out at once. As a result of Shrek Academy violating the tournament rules, I hereby proclaim.....”

He had just said this when suddenly, a voice interrupted him,

“Wait a moment.”

This time it was Grandmaster who spoke up. Even though he wasn't as agitated as Flender, his face was ashen,

“Salas. Think clearly before you make a decision.”

“Who are you to use the lord platinum bishop's name directly?”

One of the cardinals immediately reprimanded.

Just when Salas was about to continue his speech, kicking Shrek Academy out of the tournament, Grandmaster suddenly flicked his hand, and something flew out of his sleeve, directly at Salas.

Without need for Salas to do anything, a Temple Knight swiftly stepped in front of him, one hand striking at that thing, spirit power suddenly erupting. At the same time, the other Temple Knights reacted quickly, instantly surrounding Flender, Grandmaster and Liu Erlong.

“Hold it.” One hand suddenly stuck out, blocking the hand of that Temple Knight, forming an incorporeal barrier that completely surrounded that spirit power strike. Bizarrely, there wasn't a trace of energy collision, that Temple Knight's spirit power simply faded away like melting snow.

The one to act wasn't Ning Fengzhi, nor anyone from Shrek Academy, but rather platinum bishop Salas himself.

Seeing Salas act, the Golden Iron Triangle couldn't keep from

shivering at the same time. Even though the Temple Knights weren't very strong compared to Flender and Liu Erlong, when that Temple Knight struck there had been five spirit rings glistening around him, he was clearly a Spirit King over fiftieth rank. But when Salas had acted after him, his strike had arrived first, and without using his spirit had easily dissolved his palm strike.

The Golden Iron Triangle could naturally also dissolve a Spirit King's attack, but doing it as effortlessly as Salas had done was still impossible. Flender secretly thought that even if this guy didn't have Title Douluo strength, he should already be extremely close. Spirit Hall really was unfathomably deep!

Salas used one hand to block that Temple Knight's attack, while the other hand caught the thing Grandmaster threw at him. He looked at the surrounding Temple Knights with a face as calm as water,

"What are you doing, get out of here all of you. When did I let you move?"

The Temple Knights clearly didn't understand why the platinum bishop suddenly was angry, but nobody dared refuse, and all ten immediately dejectedly left the room.

Salas didn't even need to look at it to know what had landed in his hand. His back felt moist, and along with the Temple Knights leaving the room, a faint sheen of sweat appeared on his forehead.

His facial expression clearly somewhat moderated, he bowed to Grandmaster,

"Greetings elder."

Grandmaster indifferently swept his eyes across him,

"Everyone sit down."

Flender snickered inwardly, but Ning Fengzhi was extremely astonished. With his eyesight, he had naturally seen what that tile was. The highest warrant tile Spirit Hall issued to Spirit Hall staff, possessing six symbols, this tile also had another name: Spirit Pontiff Writ. Anyone holding this tile would possess the seniority of

Spirit Hall elders, or even more like the Supreme Pontiff in person.

Even though Salas knew Grandmaster has some shady relationship with the holy court, he hadn't expected him to actually hold the Supreme Pontiff Writ. In fact, Spirit Hall had altogether three Supreme Pontiff Writs outside, granted to each of the seven great schools' three upper sects.

Even Seven Treasure Glazed Tile School master Ning Fengzhi next to him couldn't casually take out this badge of the Supreme Pontiff's authority. Who could have thought that Grandmaster would actually have this thing? Could it be that this was a fourth?

Some fragmentary memories appearing in his mind, Salas couldn't keep his heart from suddenly dropping. He knew that he would be unable to get what he wanted here today, no matter what.

Right now there was still a Ning Fengzhi next to him. If he was the slightest bit disrespectful and it got out, then he wouldn't stay a platinum bishop.

It might seem that a platinum bishop's position in Spirit Hall was second only to the Supreme Pontiff, but in fact, even though they held a great deal of power, they still didn't have the authority to truly make decisions.

Besides the Supreme Pontiff, Spirit Hall still had a hidden Elder Palace. That was the true heart of power of Spirit Hall. Major matters all required the decision of Elder Palace. In a vote, even the Supreme Pontiff only held three votes. But Elder Palace held as many as seven people. When necessary, as long as these seven were all in agreement, they could even depose the Supreme Pontiff.

And people with the Supreme Pontiff Writ, even though they couldn't compare to true elders, they still had held the position of honorary elders, and had the qualifications to directly enter Elder Palace.

Even though the upper three sects of the seven great schools had always had some distance with Spirit Hall, they still held monumental power and stood together, therefore, even Spirit Hall didn't dare lightly offend them.

Grandmaster wasn't only born from the Blue Lightning Tyrant Dragon school, but now he also had this thing. Salas didn't dare be presumptuous.

Both hands clasping the Supreme Pontiff Writ, he deferentially handed it to Grandmaster,

"Please take it back, elder."

Grandmaster took the Supreme Pontiff Writ but didn't put it away, only leaving it in front of him, indifferently sweeping Salas with a glance,

"Taking out the Supreme Pontiff Writ isn't with the intention of interfering with your eminence. I only hope our Shrek Academy can obtain fairness. Each student in the Shrek Academy team is a genius Spirit Master we've spent all our hearts fostering, I don't want their injuries to grow more serious as a result of these inquiries, risking lifelong effects. If the lord bishop absolutely wants to interrogate them, then please wait until the condition of their injuries has improved."

Even though Salas was unwilling, with the intimidation of the Supreme Pontiff Writ, what could he say? Unless the Supreme Pontiff or a member of Elder Palace were here, the Spirit Hall staff present didn't have the qualifications to say anything.

"I was impetuous. Since it's like this, this investigation is dismissed. I'll take my leave."

Salas was only using the issue for his own ends, the matters of Blue Sunshine Academy's life or death was unrelated to him.

Originally he had wanted to pretend he didn't know who Grandmaster was, but now that the Supreme Pontiff Writ had appeared in front of everyone, if he didn't act tactfully and Grandmaster really went to Supreme Pontiff Palace to speak to the Supreme Pontiff, his later prospects would be bleak.

Part 3

Let alone speaking of entering Elder Palace.

Flender's face was already covered with a smiling expression,

"Lord bishop, don't worry! Just now was also my bad, a bit too impetuous. What do you say? Among our students, Tang San's injuries aren't serious. It might be better if you ask him? He is after all the soul of the whole team. I think his knowledge of the match should also be relatively clear."

Salas shot Flender a glance, anger building in his heart, 'If you'd said so long ago, would I have had to see the Supreme Pontiff Writ? Since I've already sold my face, I can only sell it to the end. Even if I really found something, don't tell me I could really cancel your tournament qualifications?'

"No need, no need. I already understand. Those Blue Sunshine Academy students should only have been injured by spirit ability backlash. Under such circumstances, what could be done to your noble institution's students? I'll take my leave."

Finished speaking, Salas quickly brought his two cardinals away without paying any attention to Flender's urging, even to the extent that he forgot to say anything to Ning Fengzhi.

Ning Fengzhi looked deeply at Grandmaster, then left with Bone Douluo following.

The Golden Iron Triangle trio saw them to the Academy gate.

"No need to see me further. I've troubled you today. Grandmaster, about the Supreme Pontiff....."

Grandmaster looked at Salas' evasive gaze with a faint smile, saying:

"Don't worry, your eminence. The tournament is exceptionally impartial this year."

Salas' face revealed a trace of satisfaction, then he nodded and brought his people away.

Ning Fengzhi was in no hurry to leave, and looked at Grandmaster

with a smile:

“I truly didn’t expect that Grandmaster would actually be an honorary elder of Spirit Hall, Ning Fengzhi has been lacking in manners before.”

The expression in Grandmaster’s eyes was reserved,

“It’s only to scare some mediocre people, that’s all.”

Ning Fengzhi seemed like he wanted to ask something, but in the end he still held back,

“The children’s health is important, it would be better to forfeit tomorrow’s match. That would also give the organizational committee a way out.”

Finished saying this, Ning Fengzhi took his leave of the trio, turning and leaving with the Bone Douluo.

Following the two fading backs with his eyes, the fake smile on Flender’s face gradually faded,

“This school master Ning is worthy of his reputation. Only, Xiao Gang, even though you managed to scare off Spirit Hall’s people with a tiger’s roar this time, I’m afraid it’ll attract even more attention from them in the future.”

Before Grandmaster had time to open his mouth, suddenly, his ear twinged painfully. Liu Erlong’s somewhat ice cool voice rose,

“Yu Xiao Gang, you’re unexpectedly still in contact with that slut, speak, aren’t you.....”

Seeing Liu Erlong display the power of her anger, Flender first looked distracted, then hastily said:

“Eh, I still have some things to do. I’ll go back first. You chat.”

Finished speaking, he turned and ran without any semblance of brotherly spirit.

“Ouch, Erlong, let go. You misunderstand.

Grandmaster helplessly looked at Liu Erlong.

Currently, the rims of Liu Erlong's eyes had turned red, teardrops forming,

"Misunderstand? That slut even gave you a Supreme Pontiff Writ, what's there still to misunderstand? She has such an affair with you, and you won't even admit it."

Grandmaster's face was stiff as a board,

"Don't talk nonsense. Let go. She didn't give me this Supreme Pontiff Writ."

Even though Liu Erlong was a lot stronger than Grandmaster, when Grandmaster's true anger still made her somewhat afraid. Releasing the ear she'd grabbed,

"Then speak, who gave you this Supreme Pontiff Writ? If your answer doesn't satisfy me, I won't let it go at that."

Grandmaster helplessly said:

"Ah, you. No matter what your age you're still so impulsive."

Liu Erlong's eyebrows shot up,

"You're saying I'm old?"

"Eh..... You know that wasn't what I meant. Don't you want to hear the story of this Supreme Pontiff Writ?"

"Speak."

Liu Erlong then restrained her temper somewhat.

Grandmaster sighed lightly, saying:

"Little San's father gave it to me."

Liu Erlong wasn't very familiar with Tang San's background. Ever since Grandmaster had appeared, she'd set her entire heart on him alone. Now she couldn't keep from astonished saying:

"Little San's father? How is that possible, don't tell me....."

Grandmaster took Liu Erlong's hand, walking into the Academy. While walking, he slowly spoke four words:

"Title Douluo: Clear Sky."

.....

In order to prove that their students were indeed seriously injured, the next day, Shrek Academy announced that they would be forfeiting the next two matches to give the team members enough time to rest.

Shrek Academy's undefeated golden record was also smashed with this. Moreover, the opponents they drew for these two days were unexpectedly the two great powers, Godwind Academy and Thunderclap Academy.

If Thunderclap Academy felt they were somewhat lucky, then Godwind Academy's captain Feng Xiaotian was depressed.

Shrek Academy forfeiting admittedly directly gave them the victory, but Huo Wu's anger clearly wouldn't abate because of a victory like this. Feng Xiaotian hadn't truly defeated Tang San, so he could only temporarily shelve his plans of bringing back the beauty.

The qualifiers continued with the momentum of wildfire. After Shrek Academy returned, their strength hadn't weakened like some spectators had thought, and they continued playing their victory song. Very soon, altogether twenty seven rounds of the qualifiers approached their conclusion. Only the last round remained before the end.

At present, the top teams were ranked as follows:

Thunderclap Academy, twenty six fights with twenty five victories. Their only loss was against Godwind Academy.

Godwind Academy, twenty six fights with twenty five wins. Their only loss was against Blazing Academy. With a certain key character throwing the game, avoiding defeat wasn't easy.

Shrek Academy, twenty six fights with twenty four wins.

Blazing Academy, twenty six fights with twenty three wins.

Skywater Academy, twenty six fights with twenty three wins.

Elephant Armored Academy, twenty six fights with twenty one wins.

.....

Even though there was still the final round remaining before the conclusion, in fact, the passing teams were already decided. Those were: Thunderclap Academy, Godwind Academy, Shrek Academy, Blazing Academy, and Skywater Academy.

As one of the five elemental academies, Elephant Armored Academy had lost to each of the ranking five and was now hopelessly out of bounds.

In the final round, among the top five, Thunderclap Academy, Godwind Academy, and Blazing Academy were each facing weak opponents, and their victory was more or less assured.

But Shrek Academy had finally once again come across another troublesome opponent since Blazing Academy, and would settle the outcome of the final round with Skywater Academy.

Even though the match was unrelated to who would pass, it still bore upon their ranking in the qualifiers. Shrek Academy's victory could preserve their third place.

If Skywater Academy won, then adding their previous victory over Blazing Academy, they would replace Shrek Academy's position.

Therefore, at the final round, the organizational committee had arranged for the top five teams as well as Elephant Armored Academy to fight in the same round, as a brilliant representation of the final qualifying round to the spectators.

Shrek Academy facing Skywater Academy was no doubt the most important match, so they were naturally selected to carry it out on the central stage.

Every day there were fourteen matches, split over three rounds. As a result of the qualifiers already being settled by now, as well as it

being the final round, the academies that had already washed out weren't particularly zealous, and the first two rounds ended very quickly.

In the rest area, the five great elemental academies and Shrek Academy were quietly waiting to go up. Of course, there were still another four teams as foils.

Tang San and Dai Mubai sat close together in front of their team, quietly waiting for the match to begin.

Thinking back over these qualifiers, the only ones that had truly brought them any trouble was Elephant Armored Academy, Blazing Academy, and Blue Sunshine Academy. And Blue Sunshine Academy was dealt with by Tang San with his Purple Demon Eye alone.

The remaining powers, Godwind Academy and Thunderclap Academy, had passed while they forfeited their matches. The rest of the qualifiers passed without hindrance.

Even though there were hindrances among them, speaking overall, it still went smoothly. Today was the final round of the qualifiers. Even if their inability to become the champions of the qualifiers left Tang San somewhat frustrated, he had long ago secretly vowed that no matter what, the final championship of this Continental Advanced Spirit Master Academy Elite Tournament was set aside for Shrek Academy.

The outcome of today's match might be without consequence, but neither Tang San and Dai Mubai had any intent of giving up. Only by unceasingly competing with powers could they increase their own strength.

Shrek Academy's lineup was separately: Captain, Evil Eye White Tiger Dai Mubai. Vice Captain, Thousand Hands Asura Tang San. Close combat power attack system Spirit Master Soft Bones Demon Rabbit Xiao Wu, power attack system Spirit Masters Tai Long and Huang Yuan, agility attack system Spirit Master Jing Ling and healing system Spirit Master Jiang Zhu.

Same as their fight against Blazing Academy, there were only three

people from their main force.

The start of the final match drew closer and closer. At this time, a cheerful silhouette surreptitiously came over. His gaze first swept across Xiao Wu, Ning Rongrong and Zhu Zhuqing, then landed on Tang San.

“Brother Tang, today is the final match. Work hard!”

Tang San and the others looked at the new arrival. It wasn't a stranger, but the Godwind Academy team's captain, Feng Xiaotian.

Looking at him, Xiao Wu couldn't help frowning,

“Why did you come here? Can't you say something new?”

In fact, before practically each match since Shrek Academy had defeated Blazing Academy, Feng Xiaotian had come over to give Shrek Academy a pep talk.

Notes

1. Flender's referring to himself as (在下), a very humble personal pronoun.
2. Half guessing here, since (满天星) is also the name of a plant, Baby's Breath in English. If anyone has a better translation of “茶叶末, 先倒好一杯热水, 然后撒一把进去”, let me know.

105 – Spirit Fusion Ability, Drifting Snow

Part 1

The Shrek Academy group naturally didn't know what this fellow intended, but how couldn't repeating the same words every single day arouse their suspicions?

Actually, Feng Xiaotian's goal was quite simple. They hadn't met Shrek Academy in the qualifiers, therefore what he wanted to see the least was Shrek Academy losing even once. Only if everyone entered the finals would they have the chance to fight. This was a rare chance to woo Huo Wu! He wouldn't give up as long as there was still hope.

Feng Xiaotian also became comparatively familiar with Shrek Academy over these days,

"Little sister Xiao Wu, don't be like that. Big brother just came to cheer you on!"

Xiao Wu snorted unhappily,

"Who's your little sister, don't worm your way into being friends."

Tang San patted Xiao Wu's shoulder. Walking over in front of Feng Xiaotian, he said with a smile:

"We'll do our utmost. If senior Feng hopes we can meet in the finals, then don't lose in the later competitions either. Like that, we will definitely encounter each other."

Even though Feng Xiaotian was still all smiles, a trace of radiance flashed in the corners of his eyes, perfectly caught by Tang San's outstanding eyesight.

"Since you say as much, is your Shrek Academy's goal the

championship?”

Tang San countered:

“Don’t tell me it isn’t for your Godwind Academy?”

Against everyone’s expectations, Feng Xiaotian actually shook his head, saying:

“Of course not. We’ve never hoped to be champions. Nobody could defeat those Spirit Hall freaks.”

Dai Mubai’s heart twitched. As they didn’t have any information on Spirit Hall’s competing team, he couldn’t help asking:

“Are those Spirit Hall representatives very strong?”

Feng Xiaotian grinned, saying:

“I also don’t know the specifics. Anyway, in order for us to meet, first pray you don’t encounter them. The matches are starting, I’ll leave first.”

Watching Feng Xiaotian’s quickly departing back, Dai Mubai’s evil eyes revealed a somewhat peculiar luster,

“This Feng Xiaotian definitely know something, but he’s not talking.”

Tang San muttered to himself:

“Godwind Academy is already very powerful. In this competition, besides not meeting us, they even defeated the first ranked Thunderclap Academy. If not for once being defeated by the fourth ranked Blazing Academy, Godwind Academy’s record would be straight wins. Even if this doesn’t prove they’re the strongest in the competition, they should definitely be more difficult to handle than Blazing Academy and Elephant Armored Academy. Such a strong team unexpectedly doesn’t have any belief in defeating Spirit Hall’s representative team. It seems that the opponents we’ll face in the finals will be rather difficult to deal with.”

The two looked face to face, their faces somewhat serious.

If it was in a competition between their peers, the Shrek Seven

Devils wouldn't fear anyone's challenge. But the upper age limit for this Continental Advanced Spirit Master Academy Elite Tournament was twenty five.

Even though talents were rare, that absolutely didn't mean there were none. What kind of place was Spirit Hall? It was the holy land of all Spirit Masters. How could the people in a team representing Spirit Hall be lacking in strength?

While the Shrek Academy group was pondering the strength of future opponents, not far away from them was a group of young women watching them attentively.

"Eldest sister. Look, Shrek Academy's Dai Mubai is so stylish! I heard his nickname is Evil Eye White Tiger, his eyes have double pupils."

The speaker was a young woman with a goose egg face^[1]. She appeared about twenty, built petite, with short dark green hair that seemed extremely spirited.

These women all wore blue uniforms, precisely the opponent Shrek Academy was about to face, Skywater Academy.

The five great elemental academies all had their own special requirements for enrolling new students. For the Elephant Armored Academy's criteria, first was that body weight had to exceed three hundred jin^[2], while the next were requirements to the spirit.

The other four elemental academies mainly had criterions relating to spirit properties. Students enrolling in Blazing Academy had to have spirits with fire attributes, and for Skywater Academy that was naturally water attributes.

Among the five great elemental academies, Skywater Academy's examination requirements were the most pitiless, because apart from having a water attribute spirit, they still had a few extra requirements.

First, they only accepted female students. Second, non-beauties weren't accepted.

But they also had a humane side. Among the five great elemental academies, Skywater Academy was the only one that accepted commoners. In this respect they were the same as Shrek Academy.

Consequently, not only were the members of Skywater Academy's team all female students, but each and every one was beautiful.

The speaking short dark green haired young woman appeared to be the youngest of the seven members, her face still somewhat childish.

"Seventh girl, when did you become so starry eyed? If this goes on, won't you be throwing the match later?"

A goose egg faced red haired young woman teased.

"Alright, don't be noisy. The match is about to start, Shrek Academy are very difficult to deal with. From the start of the qualifiers, they actually haven't lost a single match. It was no coincidence both Blazing Academy and Elephant Armored Academy lost to them one after the other. Prevailing over them won't be easy. Even if we're already in the clear, if we lose to them today, they will have a psychological advantage over us in the finals. Therefore, in the match today, everyone have to go all out."

Compared to the previous two girls, this girl's voice was a lot calmer. Among all the Skywater Academy's seven competing members, she absolutely wasn't the oldest, and might even be the youngest, as she didn't seem to have reached twenty. But when she spoke, the other six girls clearly moderated their expressions a lot, and even looked at her somewhat respectfully.

This woman's height was about one meter sixty five or so, her figure exceptionally well proportioned, neither exaggeratedly ample or petite.

A head of ocean blue long hair scattered over her back, and her face was decorated with exquisite features. At first glance she might not seem so outstanding, but at closer look one could constantly discover her beauty. A beauty like a rising moon.

She was the Skywater Academy's team captain, and also the team's eldest sister, Shui Bing-Er^[3]. Skywater Academy's team members

weren't ranked according to their age, but according to their strength.

Therefore, even though Shui Bing-Er was the youngest, the sisters of the team sincerely called her 'eldest sister'.

Her position in the Skywater Academy team was even more important than Tang San's in the Shrek Academy team.

At this moment, it finally became their turn to enter the arena as the last round of matches.

When the five great elemental academies and Shrek Academy entered, the entire Heaven Dou Great Spirit Arena boiled. Today was the last day of the qualifiers, and also the last round of matches.

For the grand occasion of seeing the competitions of the five great elemental academies and Shrek Academy alike, today the prices for tickets was several times higher than before, but despite this they were still hard to find.

The Shrek Academy team and the Skywater Academy team climbed the central stage from separate ends.

Perhaps it was because of last time's fight between Shrek Academy and Blue Sunshine Academy turning out as a great disgrace for the commentator in the VIP seats, but over these days of competition he had restrained himself a lot.

"The final round of matches of these qualifiers is about to start. First of all, let us turn our gazes to the left stage, Elephant Academy versus Pondering Peak Academy,, and finally, let's turn our gazes to the central stage. This is also the most anticipated match of the day. Already certain to pass the qualifiers, Shrek Academy and Skywater Academy will stage the final spectacle of this Continental Advanced Spirit Master Academy Elite Tournament's qualifiers. On one side is this year's dark horse, on one side a veteran team. Who will obtain the final victory in the end? Let us wipe our eyes and see."

Climbing onto the central stage, as Shui Bing-Er saw Shrek

Academy's final troop arrangement, she couldn't keep from frowning. Just like Blazing Academy's Huo Wu, inwardly rose an equal anger.

The other two fortieth ranked Spirit Masters that Shrek Academy had revealed in previous matches didn't appear among their members for this match.

'Are they actually looking down on our Skywater Academy, still thinking this kind of formation is enough to deal with us?'

The referee indicated both sides salute each other.

Both sides lined up, Shui Bing-Er and Dai Mubai opposite each other. Clearly seeing Shui Bing-Er's appearance, Dai Mubai also couldn't help starting slightly. He had seen a lot of beautiful women, but this kind of characteristic girl was still rather rare, especially even though Shui Bing-Er's aura wasn't powerful, the wise and farsighted look in her eyes was something he couldn't help but associate with Tang San's expression.

Dai Mubai immediately judged that this was a very intelligent girl.

In order to temper the Shrek Seven Devils' adaptability, before the start of each match of the qualifiers, Grandmaster didn't give them any detailed introduction of the opponents. Everything was up to Tang San's management. This made the results of engaging in these kinds of real combat exercises even better.

"Shrek Academy team captain, Dai Mubai, forty fourth ranked power attack system Battle Spirit Master."

The counterpart was after all a girl, so Dai Mubai would clearly be a lot more polite than when confronting other teams in the past. Announcing his name and level expressed his esteem for the opponents.

Even though Shui Bing-Er was inwardly somewhat angry, she didn't show it on the surface. Seeing Dai Mubai take the initiative to express his respect, she also immediately announced herself,

"Skywater Academy team captain, Shui Bing-Er, forty third ranked control system Battle Spirit Master."

Part 2

She was a control system Spirit Master? Hearing the opponent's words, Dai Mubai couldn't keep from glancing at Tang San next to him, inwardly saying, 'Little San, this time you seem to have met your opponent.'

Tang San was still undisturbed. Making out anything from his face wasn't easy.

"Shui Yue-Er, thirty sixth ranked agility attack system Battle Spirit Master."

Standing next to Shui Bing-Er, with a somewhat similar appearance, the short haired young woman who was excited over Dai Mubai before, took the initiative to announce her own name. She and Shui Bing-Er were paternal siblings, related by blood despite the different hair colors.

Ah? Dai Mubai stared blankly, and Shui Bing-Er was also in a daze. The captains of both sides announcing themselves was already enough to show respect. This was a match, not an exchange of pointers. Shui Yue-Er's words immediately seemed a bit abrupt.

Shui Yue-Er also discovered her mistake immediately after speaking, her face turning a shade red. But this girl was clearly rather easygoing, and her big eyes fixedly looked at Dai Mubai, hardly concealing her interest.

If it was before, Dai Mubai definitely wouldn't have rejected such a beautiful woman, and moreover a Spirit Master. But now it was different, the Hell Civet was still watching from the audience. Their relationship had with great difficulty eased a lot, and if it broke down again, Dai Mubai really didn't know how he would pass his later days.

Therefore, confronted with this unprovoked friendliness, Dai Mubai could only look down, taking the appearance of an upright gentleman.

In order to keep their counterpart from being too embarrassed, Tang

San lightly nudged Xiao Wu next to him, who immediately caught on, “Xiao Wu. Thirty eighth rank agility attack system Spirit Master.”

The referee also didn't drag it out further,

“Both sides get ready. You can release your spirits.”

Dai Mubai and Shui Bing-Er raised their heads practically simultaneously. Light flashed through the four pupils of Dai Mubai's evil eyes, his imposing manner immediately changing, suddenly releasing pressure just like a fierce tiger coming down a mountain. With the difference in spirit power, the seven young women in front of him immediately shivered.

The Shrek team immediately took their positions. It was still a trio of power attack in front, Tang San in the middle, Xiao Wu and Jing Ling on his left and right, and Jiang Zhu supporting from the rear.

But the formation of the opposing Skywater Academy team was unexpectedly quite similar to their side. Three girls in the front, Shui Bing-Er in the middle, Shui Yue-Er and another agility attack system young woman to her left and right, as well as a young woman with long black hair and a somewhat pale face in the rear.

Both sides released their spirits practically simultaneously, their full strength immediately emerging.

Making Dai Mubai and Tang San somewhat startled was that Skywater Academy's strength was even a bit above theirs. Because of competing every day, they'd basically not had the time to observe their opponents, and Grandmaster deliberately didn't give them any information. That's why they only knew that Skywater Academy was made up of female students, and that they all had water attribute strength. Basically nothing else.

Now, when both sides simultaneously released their spirit rings, Skywater Academy's strength immediately emerged.

Besides the forty third ranked Shui Bing-Er, there were another two fortieth ranked Spirit Masters. One was one of the three power attack system Spirit Masters standing in front, and the other was the

black haired young woman who stood furthest in the back.

Even though the colors of the spirit rings were different, the spirits of the seven Skywater Academy team members all had the same color, all water blue.

Shui Bing-Er was completely enveloped in a layer of hazy blue light, a ring of dazzling blue light somewhat beautifully vague hanging behind her back. Even Tang San couldn't see just what her spirit was, he only felt it had a very formidable aura.

The three power attack system Battle Spirit Masters in front all had very strange spirits as well, they all had some places covered in fine scales, not dragon scales, but rather like fish.

And of the two agility attack system Spirit Masters, Shui Yue-Er's spirit made her skin shining as if glazed, and the other agility attack system Spirit Master's skin turned completely blue.

The Shrek Academy team all looked at each other. It was the first time they had encountered this kind of opponent where they actually couldn't even see what their spirits were. Even though they still hadn't started, they already understood they were at a disadvantage.

"Begin."

When the referee saw that both sides had released their spirits, he immediately announced.

"Attack."

A very simple word. Under Tang San's direction, Dai Mubai, Tai Long and Huang Yuan simultaneously charged. Unable to see what the opponents' spirits were, they would probe it by fighting. In battle, they could make a clearer judgement.

Xiao Wu and Jing Ling simultaneously detoured around either side, while Tang San followed close behind the three attackers, five strips of Blue Silver Grass simultaneously tying around the five peoples' waists. Even if the opponents had powerful burst attacks, he could still instantly help his teammates retreat.

Along with the frontal charge of Dai Mubai's trio, Skywater Academy's three power attack system Spirit Masters also moved. But neither side unleashed their spirit abilities right away, rather meeting their opponents with pressure.

Two attentive eyes drew in Tang San. The instant his gaze met those eyes, inwardly he immediately felt somewhat unreassured. Without guarding himself, he directly launched his first spirit ability, Binding.

Three Binding's released simultaneously, their targets the three power attack system Spirit Masters in front. Since last time when he sensed the aura of the wild blue silver grass, his own Blue Silver Grass had become a lot stronger than before.

This first spirit ability could even more instantly reach any corner within the range of his spirit power control.

Just the moment Tang San launched his first spirit ability, Shui Bing-Er's first spirit ring had also already brightened.

Watery blue light flashed, and Tang San only felt his whole body go cold and his advance suddenly coming to a standstill, as his entire body was encased in a block of solid ice. At the same time, Dai Mubai, Huang Yuan, and Tai Long were stopped the same way.

Even though this was only the first spirit ability, instantly sending four proved the power of Shuo Bing-Er's spirit power control.

The power attack system Spirit Masters of both sides were restrained simultaneously, the difference was that on the Shrek Academy side even the control system Spirit Master was restrained.

Shui Bing-Er's second spirit ring flared close after the first, discharging altogether five rings of ice, separately enveloping Skywater Academy's three power attack system Spirit Masters and two agility attack system Spirit Masters.

A miraculous scene appeared, the Spirit Masters enveloped by the five rings of ice suddenly grew a layer of sparkling blue armor, and along with the three power attack system Spirit Masters using force, the Blue Silver Grass around them already began to rupture.

Hong—— Great puffs of ice powder flew in all directions. A moment like this could show who had the greater strength. Before the three opposing power attack system Spirit Masters threw off the Blue Silver Grass, Dai Mubai had already turned his restraints into ice dust. With a great roar, the two abilities White Tiger Barrier and White Tiger Light Wave unleashed simultaneously.

White Tiger Barrier was for himself, but the White Tiger Light Wave directly passed by the three power attack system Spirit Masters, going straight for Shui Bing-Er.

“Xue Wu^[4], begin.”

Shui Bing-Er faced Dai Mubai’s attack with composure. After first giving orders, she used her second spirit ability on herself as well, and was immediately covered in a layer of ice armor.

When Dai Mubai’s White Tiger Light Wave struck her body, the blue light previously released behind her suddenly fused together with Shui Bing-Er’s ice armor.

With a peng sound, Shui Bing-Er only took a step back, but didn’t suffer any injuries.

The Blue Silver Grass was thrown off, and Huang Yuan and Tai Long also struggled free of the solid ice, one after the other. The speed with which Tang San shed his restraints was still a lot faster than them, but the instant he had just struggled out of the solid ice, Shui Bing-Er’s first spirit ability descended once again. Basically without being given the chance to stall, Tang San was already icebound again.

Tai Long was a strength type Spirit Masters. Facing his opponent, a tall female Spirit Master, he swung his big hands, directly grabbing towards his counterpart. The opponent was after all a girl, and he’d be embarrassed to act heavy handed. His strength erupting, he believed that there was no Spirit Master on the same level that could compare to him in strength. Of course, even Tang San had to rely on technique to prevail over his strength.

The female Spirit Master he confronted equally raised her hands

without dodging. Strong blue light releasing from her body, the first spirit ring flaring, the scales that originally only appeared on her cheeks spread across her body in a flash, and at the same time her second spirit ring also brightened, a ball of intense blue light rising from her chest and shooting directly at the pit of Tai Long's stomach.

Confronted by the opponent's attack, Tai Long changed his grab to a strike, swatting at the opponent's shoulder. Because his spirit abilities were completely internal, the speed with which he launched them was faster than any other Spirit Master. The same moment the opponent's attack completed, his hand also struck her shoulder.

A strike was a strike, but making Tai Long feel very baffled was that it was like striking a block of slippery ice, dispersing the majority of his strength. But that sphere of blue light also struck his chest, violent impact force immediately blasting Tai Long's massive body flying.

That young woman also didn't get off easy, she had still underestimated Tai Long's strength. Even though she had substantially weakened Tai Long's attack by relying on her first spirit ability, a part of the force still affected her.

With a muffled groan, she fell back several steps, half her body already turned numb.

At the same time as both sides began fighting, that black haired girl in the Skywater Academy's rear also began moving. Bizarrely, she didn't attack, but rather started dancing in place.

Part 3

Black hair fluttering, dancing lightly and gracefully, her four spirit rings glittered in turn, circle after circle of hazy blue light spreading out along with her dance. As she danced, a black cloud unexpectedly formed over the central stage, just enveloping the platform. Immediately afterward, pea sized drops of rain began to fall, turning into a torrential downpour.

These drops didn't fall on the Skywater Academy girls. When they

got close, they would quietly slide off. But it wasn't that easy for the Shrek Academy team members. In just a moment, besides the still icebound Tang San, the other six already looked like drowned rats.

Peng—— The ice seal shattered once again. This time Tang San didn't pause, his fourth spirit ring already flaring. Seven circles of Blue Silver Grass immediately rushed out of the ground, instantly turning into Blue Silver Prisons and enveloping the seven opponents.

He didn't have any other choice. He could still see the battlefield situation even when icebound. Before he broke free, Shui Bing-Er had already used her ice bindings three times one after another on his teammates. The entire battlefield was already completely suppressed. Especially after Jiang Zhu was icebound. She didn't have the strength to break the ice, and breaking free by only relying on spirit power would take a very long time.

Therefore Tang San didn't spare his spirit power, instantly launching Blue Silver Prison.

Shui Bing-Er clearly hadn't thought Tang San could use his spirit so quickly. She basically didn't pay any attention to the Blue Silver Prisons on her side, raising a hand and waving it, another ice binding fell on Tang San.

Even though this was only Shui Bing-Er's first spirit ability, it still gave Tang San endless headaches. This ability wasn't just instant, but also basically couldn't be dodged and affected the body directly. As long as Shui Bing-Er mentally locked on him, he would inevitably be icebound.

Only this time he was prepared, and the instant he was icebound, Tang San immediately released a Blue Silver Prison on himself, enlarging the range of the ice binding a bit. When the ice binding was complete, he used his control to immediately revoke the Blue Silver Prison Again, using the force of the recall of Blue Silver Prison to immediately break the ice.

Dai Mubai hadn't been cooperating with Tang San for just a day or two. When suppressed, he didn't have room for any tender feelings. His opponent finally restrained by Blue Silver Prison, Dai Mubai

immediately launched his third spirit ability, White Tiger Vajra Transformation.

An originally already majestic body swelling up once again, terrifying force spreading outward, Tai Long raised his strength to the peak at the same time as him. Under their present conditions, Shui Bing-Er's ice binding was already unable to stop them at all.

Making Tang San somewhat depressed was that his Blue Silver Prison not only couldn't stop Shui Bing-Er from continuing to use her spirit abilities, but it couldn't stop the black haired young woman from dancing either. Even though Blue Silver Prison's restraining range was small, that black haired young woman could fully use the small space for her dance, and the rain falling from the black clouds was growing colder and colder.

Countless Blue Silver Grass rushed out from Tang San's body, becoming a forest of vines, completely sheltering him within. In order not to be restrained by Shui Bing-Er's ability, he had no choice but to protect himself like this. At the same time, his voice also spread from within the Blue Silver Grass.

By now, Godwind Academy and Blazing Academy had both finished their matches already. The two great teams' burst power really was too strong, and their opponents basically couldn't even put up a fight before they were defeated.

They were in no hurry to withdraw, but rather each followed the central match closely from their stages.

Huo Wu said to Huo Wushuang:

"Ge, it seems Shui Bing-Er's ability just restrains Tang San. See how sorry he's looking."

Huo Wushuang nodded, saying:

"Your Defying Flame Ring ability just restrains Shui Bing-Er. Skywater Academy really is very powerful this time around. Especially Shui Bing-Er and Xue Wu."

On the Godwind Academy side, Feng Xiaotian helplessly watched

the battlefield,

“Fortunately Skywater Academy are all women. Even if Shrek Academy loses, they still won’t snatch my Huo Wu. Ai, poor Shrek Academy, it really isn’t easy confronting a group of girls. Originally I also just managed to use wind to blow them off.....”

“Boss, do you think everyone’s brains are as filled with women as yours?”

“.....”

“Mubai, Meteor Shower, Blue Silver Prison, power attack left and right.”

Tang San used the most succinct words possible to conduct the battle.

A purple spirit ring flashed with light, and dazzling splendor rose above Dai Mubai’s head, the power ful fourth spirit ability finally taking the stage, White Tiger Meteor Shower.

Dazzling meteor after meteor fell from the sky. Those meteors weren’t aimed at the fortieth ranked power attack system Battle Spirit Master in front of Dai Mubai, but rather struck each of Tai Long and Huang Yuan’s opponents.

Seeing the White Tiger Meteor Shower striking their side, Shui Bing-er’s expression immediately changed somewhat. But what came after was even more unexpected.

The targets of the meteor shower weren’t the two young women who still hadn’t struggled free of the Blue Silver Prisons, but rather the Blue Silver Prisons surrounding them.

A series of loud explosions followed.

The Blue Silver Prisons shattered in response, but that formidable impact also sent the two Skywater Academy power attack system Battle Spirit Masters flying, throwing them directly off the stage.

Tang San’s calculations were extremely precise. If the White Tiger Meteor Shower attacked that fortieth ranked Battle Spirit Master in

front of Dai Mubai, unless it struck her directly it would be very difficult to defeat her. But their opponents were all girls, and using killing moves was naturally no good.

But if it struck the Blue Silver Prisons, under Tang San's coordination, shooting the two somewhat weaker power attack system Battle Spirit Masters off the stage, it would weaken the opponents.

At the same time, Tang San's Binding ability launched, its target that still dancing black haired young woman.

"Too late."

Though Shui Bing-Er was alarmed, she wasn't panicked. Just as Tang San's Binding ability launched a ring of ice blue light erupted from her body, the result unexpectedly the same as Huo Wu's Defying Flame Ring, though by different means.

Tang San only felt an ice cold strike before his Binding ability was unexpectedly forced back. Under the instantly blossoming effect of the ice ring, even though it didn't break Tang San's Blue Silver Prison, it still forced the Shrek Academy side's members to all retreat.

The Blue Silver Prisons trapping Shui Bing-Er and Xue Wu instantly broke, ripped apart by her full strength third spirit ability.

Shui Bing-Er moved, not advancing, but rather retreating, turning in the ice rain to rush back to Xue Wu. And the other three people gathered quickly, blocking in front of the two.

"Not good, it's a spirit fusion ability."

Tang San immediately came to the realization when he saw Shui Bing-Er's actions.

But just as Shui Bing-Er said. Too late.

Blue hair and black hair fused together in a flash, merging into a dazzling pillar of blue and white light that shot into the black clouds above. Shui Bing-Er and Xue Wu's bodies disappeared simultaneously, as their spirit fusion ability finally emerged.

From the start of the competition, while Shui Bing-Er used her full strength to restrain Tang San, this spirit fusion ability had been prepared. When that ray of light shot into the black clouds, even if Shui Bing-Er and Xue Wu were defeated, it still wouldn't stop the power of the spirit fusion ability from being unleashed.

"Gather."

Tang San shouted. Since it couldn't be stopped, they could only endure.

Under the pull of the Blue Silver Grass, Dai Mubai, Huang Yuan, Tai Long, Jing Ling, and Xiao Wu were simultaneously drawn in, moving everyone near the icebound Jiang Zhu.

Right now Tang San wasn't able to deal with others, pulling Jiang Zhu to the middle and crowding him and the other five tightly around her.

"Healing scepter, full strength. Quick."

Jiang Zhu caught on immediately, directly planting the healing scepter on the ground.

The rain in the sky changed, the ice rain becoming snow that danced in the air, just that each snow flake was as sharp as a blade, and as they spun and drifted down, a whirlpool of ice and snow engulfed the Shrek Academy team.

"Concede if you're unable to persevere, we will stop."

Shui Bing-Er's voice sounded from outside.

Tang San answered her with action. Blue Silver Grass, Binding, launched. This time the target was the six people with him. Twisting tightly, it didn't leave a trace of a crack.

Fourth spirit ability, Blue Silver prison, launched. Altogether seven Blue Silver Prison's rushed out frantically from the ground, becoming seven protective barriers.

Finally, Tang San used his almost exhausted spirit power to create a Spiderweb Restraint outside of the Blue Silver Prisons. Of his four

spirit abilities, Spiderweb Restraint was doubtless the most durable.

Drifting Snow, a very beautiful name, but this beauty contained inexhaustible killing intent. How powerful was a spirit fusion ability used by two fortieth ranked Spirit Ancestors? Dai Mubai and Zhu Zhuqing had revealed it as early as their match against Elephant Armored Academy. But this time, the Shrek Academy team had become the defenders.

This was the first time since the start of the competition that Shui Bing-Er and Xue Wu used this spirit fusion ability, this was also their hidden card. They hadn't used it when facing the five elemental academies, but they absolutely weren't willing to lose against Shrek Academy.

The audience saw that dancing snow tornado, but the Shrek Academy team members also heard a toothache inducing grinding sound.

Could Tang San's spirit abilities resist this Drifting Snow spirit fusion ability? Could they still obtain victory in the final match of these qualifiers? Within that storm of snowflakes, all this became uncertain.

Nobody knew. Not even the powers in the VIP seats could say for certain.

Notes

1. A face shape considered very beautiful in China.
2. 300斤 = 150 kg
3. (水冰儿) "Water Icelet" - The last character is a diminutive suffix
4. (雪舞) "Snow Dance", the same wu as in Xiao Wu or Huo Wu.

Credits

Author	—	(唐家三少) Tang Jia San Shao
Illustrator	—	(暮逢春) Mu Feng Chun
Publication platform	—	Shumilou.co
Publisher	—	<u>(长江出版社) Changjiang Press</u>
Translator	—	<u>Blue Silver Translation</u>
Book designer	—	<u>Armaell</u>